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Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015

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metro exclusive: Parliament Hill shooting

Metro has obtained a never-before-released City of Ottawa report into the Parliament Hill shooting under the municipal freedom-of-information act. But the city is withholding the most important part of the report: the recommendations. The city will not release any of the 94 recommendations made in the report.

What we can tell you, page 6

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metro NEWS

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Program 'more than pen pals'

EDUCATION

Old-fashioned letters connect Muslim and Jewish students

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Lots of young people have online friends they've never met in person — but what about a friend you've only met through writing letters?

It's almost unheard of in 2015, but Sophia Mirzayee does. She started writing her pen pal 11 years ago as a Grade 6 student at Ottawa's Charles H. Hulse elementary school.

"The experience is something you can take a lot away from. It shows that learning doesn't end at three o'clock when everybody leaves," she said.

The pen pal program for Grade 6 students continues today, pairing the predominantly Muslim students at Hulse with students at the Ottawa Jewish Community School.

Teacher Patrick Moscoe started the program in 2011, after the attacks on the World Trade Center had brought racial tension to the school.

It still has an important impact today.

"Sometimes you have Muslim kids who have never played with Jewish kids, and you have Jewish kids who have never played with Muslim kids," he said.

"We learn that you can't judge anyone based on anything except character. They really like that they're taking the lead here."

Students exchange three letters during the school year. Moscoe said the excitement of snail mail is a major draw. Then the students tour each other's school.

On Tuesday, the pen pals finally met in person, having fun and playing outdoor games together. At the end of the day, things got a little more serious. The two groups sat together and watched a video of a Holocaust survivor telling his story.

It's a high-level discussion for children aged 11 and 12, but it's a lesson they need to learn early before they get older and cynical, said Moscoe.

"Some of the kids, by the time they're in Grade 8, they don't care about empathy. Sometimes they come from families that think, 'Jewish people are not our friends' or 'Muslim people are not our friends.' If we don't deal with it now, you may have lost them."

Moscoe said he does get the occasional pushback from parents, but almost all the feedback is positive. Parents are often asking to volunteer and sit in and kids in lower grades are always excited to take part.

"It's more than pen pals, sending letters back and forth," he said. "It's making new friends and showing that we're community leaders."

Sophia Mirzayee participated in Charles H. Hulse's pen pal program when she was 12 years old. More than a decade later, she still keeps in touch with the friend she made 11 years ago by snail mail. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Charles H. Hulse student Hussam Alhoumud, 12, and his Ottawa Jewish Community School pen pal Boris Livshitz, 12. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

> **It's a really good experience to meet other people from other cultures and to get to know each other. They learn how we do things and we learn how they do things.**
> Hussam Alhoumud

Charles H. Hulse student Leila Muaed, 12, and her two pen pals Lea Sternthal, 11, and Gabi Geist, 11.
HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

> **The program is really good because before, we never knew we could be friends.... To think that we have so many things in common, and also a lot of differences, we can still be great friends.** Gabi Geist

Charles H. Hulse student Valentina Solis, 12, and her two pen pals Sadie Sider-Echenberg, 11, and Paige Kaufman, 12. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

> **When we first started writing letters, I wondered, 'What if they're not athletic and we won't have anything in common?' But at the same time, what does it matter? They are who they are.**
> Valentina Solis

CITY OFFICIALS

No pipeline talk before board review

Ottawa residents got the chance Tuesday to weigh in on the environmental goals in the city's four-year plan.

"If we don't act now, we will certainly have to act later. We're looking for leadership from the city," said Liz Bernstein of the Lowertown Community Association, echoing many of the other delegates. While most presenters commended the city's goals around tree planting and renewable energy, the absence of discussion on the Energy East pipeline came up more than once.

"I know you can't stop a pipeline, but you can consider as a council to say, 'We don't want this tar sands bitumen going through our communities'," said Lynda Kitchikeesic.

McMaster University researcher George Sorger asked that the city hire an independent expert to review the Energy East pipeline and potential risks to the environment. City staff responded that comments would be made after the National Energy Board reviews the pipeline proposal.

"It isn't the city delaying it, but we need to know what we're responding to," said Capital ward Coun. David Chernushenko.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

> **If we don't act now, we will certainly have to act later.**
> Liz Bernstein of Lower Community Association

TWO HOSPITALIZED

SIU drops probe of officer's collision

Ontario's Special Investigation Unit (SIU) said it has concluded its probe into a two-car collision in which an Ottawa police officer and a 52-year-old were both injured.

The June 4 collision sent both the police officer and the female driver of the other car to hospital. The SIU said Tuesday it ended its investigation after medical reports revealed "there was no evidence of serious injury" in this case, despite an Ottawa Paramedic Service news release stating at the time the officer sustained "serious head injuries."

The officer was responding to a call with his lights and siren activated at 9:20 a.m., according to the SIU review. As his cruiser approached the intersection of Hazeldean and Huntmar Roads, it collided with another vehicle.

The officer, who is in his 30s, was initially unconscious, but he later regained consciousness when paramedics arrived at around 9 a.m. He is in serious, but stable condition in hospital, according to paramedics. The driver of the other vehicle was treated for hip, spinal, and head injuries, said paramedics.

JOE LAFARO/METRO

Public Service Alliance of Canada bargaining unit members, from left: Nathalie Paulin, Blair Winger, Lauren Baert and Michael Freeman. MICHAEL WOODS/METRO

Unions want respect as they return to bargain

LABOUR

Negotiators say their charter rights are being attacked

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

Collective bargaining talks between Treasury Board and public service unions resumes this week, with union officials decrying a lack of respect on the part of the federal government.

Metro spoke with members of four different bargaining units with the Public Service Alliance of Canada, the largest union representing federal government workers, as the two sides return to the table this week.

Union negotiators postponed the last round of talks in May after the government tabled its omnibus budget bill (C-59) which would allow it to legislate a new sick leave regime. They argue it violates their collective bargaining rights.

As they return to negotiations in Ottawa this week, their common demand is for meaningful, fair collective bargaining — something they say has been undermined by Bill C-59.

"As public servants, we're asked to uphold charter rights for anyone that we come in contact with, but at the same time our charter rights are being attacked," said Lauren Baert, whose bargaining unit represents Canadian Border Services Agency employees.

> **If you have a preconceived idea about how you want bargaining to go, how does it show respect?**
> Nathalie Paulin

Nathalie Paulin, part of the Program and Administrative Services bargaining unit, said she feels the government is trying to predetermine the outcome of negotiations.

"If you have a preconceived idea about how you want bargaining to go, how does it show respect?" she said. "During National Public Service Week, the least they could do is come back to the table with the openness and willingness to negotiate in good faith, as a show of respect for the workers they say that they value."

In a statement, Treasury Board President Tony Clement said he's always said he's committed to having "good-faith and meaningful negotiations" on the sick leave system and short-term disability design.

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Police secure the scene of the shooting on Parliament Hill on Wednesday Oct. 22, 2014. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

City stays silent on shooting

PARLIAMENT HILL

Security report's advice being kept under wraps

Steve Rennie
Metro | Ottawa

The City of Ottawa is refusing to divulge key parts of an internal security report into Michael Zehaf Bibeau's attack on Parliament Hill.

Metro obtained a copy of a March report on the city's response to the Oct. 22, 2014, shooting at the National War Memorial and Parliament Hill under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The report — which the city has not made public — contains 94 recommendations that range from lockdown procedures and building access to the roles of elected officials during emergencies and how best to deal with school boards and local businesses in times of crisis.

However, the city is withholding each one of those recommendations by citing Section 7 (1) of the Act, which protects "advice or recommendations of an officer or employee of the city or consultant retained by the city."

Metro has filed an appeal to Ontario's Information and Privacy Commissioner about the censorship.

The recommendations in the city's report are based on the findings of two separate reports done by consulting firms Lansdowne Technologies Inc. and Security Through Safe Decision Inc.

"The 94 recommendations contained in this review will involve the input and participation of various city departments and will rely heavily on the education and awareness of city staff to be successful," says the city's report.

> **The 94 recommendations contained in this review will involve the input and participation of various city departments and will rely heavily on the education and awareness of city staff to be successful.**
>
> Excerpt from report

"Some of the recommendations do not have an associated cost for implementation; however, others may need to be classified as capital expenditures and may need to be factored into future budgets.

"The city may also choose not to implement some of the recommendations and accept the associated risk or implement an alternative solution to the identified concern."

Zehaf Bibeau shot Cpl. Nathan Cirillo at the National War Memorial on Oct. 22, then drove to Parliament Hill and burst into the Hill's Centre Block before being killed in a hail of bullets near the Library of Parliament.

The city did, however, release a section of the report in which it is praised for its response on the day of the attack.

"On that day, and the days that followed, the city responded and managed this pubic safety-terrorism situation, demonstrating that the integrated and comprehensive Ottawa Emergency Management Program is effective and efficient," says the report.

City spokeswoman Marielle Picher said it is up to the access to information and privacy office to respond to questions about the censored parts of the report.

City clerk and Solicitor Rick O'Connor referred Metro to a 2014 Supreme Court of Canada ruling on exemptions for "advice or recommendations."

"In light of the Supreme Court's broad ruling above, I, as 'head of the institution,' exercised my discretion to not disclose the advice or recommendations in question as the information therein relates to public safety and security matters that are being, or will be, considered by municipal staff," O'Connor said in an email.

"At this point in time, the advice and recommendations are being treated as internal options under active consideration by operational staff."

There has been no shortage of reports into the Oct. 22 attacks.

Earlier this month, the Ontario Provincial Police released two separate reports, the RCMP released an "after-action" internal review and the House of Commons released summary on the response to the shooting.

The OPP redacted many of its 66 recommendations on how to improve security. The provincial police force called the shooting "a grim reminder that Canada is ill-prepared to prevent and respond to such attacks."

Ottawa police also conducted an internal review of their response to the attack.

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LEGISLATION

MacKay introduces stiffer penalties for drunk driving

Justice Minister Peter MacKay announced proposed legislation Tuesday that would impose stricter penalties for impaired drivers, even though there's almost no chance the new bill will be passed before the October election.

The minister made the announcement at Ottawa police headquarters with members of Families for Justice, a group that has been lobbying for years to have convicted drunk drivers face stiffer penalties.

The government's new Dangerous and Impaired Driving Act increases penalties for driving-related offences in the Criminal Code and addresses loopholes in drinking and driving defences, including what is known as "bolus drinking" — which is basically consuming alcohol and racing home before the blood-alcohol concentration exceeds the legal limit.

The maximum penalty for dangerous driving causing bodily harm, for example, would be bumped up from 10 years imprisonment to 14 years.

The maximum penalty for driving-related offences without bodily harm would increase from five years imprisonment to 10 years.

Mandatory minimum penalties for impaired driving offences resulting in death will jump from a $1,000 fine to six years in prison.

But MacKay admitted the bill will likely not be passed in Parliament ahead of the Oct. 19 federal election.

Instead, he said, it would lay the groundwork for the future government.

"This, while not binding on future Parliaments, I believe that any incoming government is going to pursue this legislation and hopefully see this become part of our Criminal Code," he said.

"Could we and should we have done it sooner? Probably. But the reality is we're here now with a very important, comprehensive bill that we think will bring about the change that everyone desires."

In its attempt to modernize transportation-related offences within the Criminal Code, the federal government consulted with Families for Justice.

Its president, Markita Kaulius, lost her 22-year-old daughter Kassandra in 2011 to a drunk driver crash in Surrey, B.C.

The driver pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three years and one month in jail.

Kaulius said the new bill will "usher in new era of responsibility on our roadways."

JOE LOFARO/METRO

> **I believe any incoming government is going to pursue this legislation.**
> Justice Minister Peter MacKay

THE BILL

Once passed, the bill would increase maximum penalties for impaired driving and introduce new mandatory jail time instead of fines for some offences.

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Worker recovers from Legionella

DISEASE

Bacteria found in two government buildings

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

A worker at a Citizenship and Immigration Canada building in downtown Ottawa was recently diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease, and the bacteria causing the disease has been found in two government buildings in Gatineau this month.

A Citizenship and Immigration spokesman said a person working in Jean Edmonds Tower North at Slater and Kent streets was diagnosed with the illness and has since fully recovered.

There's no indication that the office tower was the source of the disease, but the department was "proactively working with Public Works and Government Services Canada to test the ventilation system," spokesman Rémi Larivière said in an email. The department notified employees on Monday.

A Public Works spokesman said the building's cooling towers were cleaned last week and subsequent test results are expected Wednesday.

In Gatineau, elevated levels of Legionella bacteria have been discovered in two government buildings this month, Public Works said late Thursday night.

At 30 Victoria St., results of a June 1 check came back Friday showing elevated levels of the bacteria in the cooling tower. It was immediately shut down and the equipment was disinfected.

At 200 Place du Portage, a maintenance check on the building's hot-water system showed the bacteria in a 12th-floor bathroom shower sample. The tower's hot-water system was immediately shut down on Friday and decontaminated. It remains shut down; post-cleaning test results are expected on Thursday.

The discoveries aren't the first Legionnaires' disease scare in government buildings. Last month, elevated levels of Legionella bacteria were found in the cooling tower of Place du Portage III, also in Gatineau.

Legionnaires' disease is a severe form of pneumonia. The disease isn't airborne and can't be transmitted from person to person. Symptoms often begin with headaches, muscle pain, chills and fever, before progressing to a coughing, shortness of breath and chest pain.

A worker at the Jean Edmonds Tower North at Slater and Kent streets has been diagnosed with Legionnaires' disease. The employee has since recovered. MICHAEL WOODS/METRO

IN BRIEF

Cops ID suspects in break-and-enter

Ottawa police have identified two suspects who allegedly broke into a building in the 200 block of Donald Street just east of downtown.

Robert Trembley, 55, and Andre Dagenais, 54, both of Ottawa, have been charged with breaking and entering, conspiracy to commit an indictable offence and trespassing at night. A third person, 54-year-old Kimberly Lavergne, has also been charged with breaking and entering. METRO

STRIKE

Teachers seek $3.2B in demands

Ontario's association of school boards says elementary teachers, who have refused to issue report cards as part of their work-to-rule campaign, have tabled $3.2 billion in "demands" during contract negotiations.

The Ontario Public School Boards Association says when contract negotiations began with the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, both sides signed ground rules preventing them from discussing bargaining details in public.

But in light of an ad campaign and statements in the media by the teachers' union, the school boards are speaking out.

They say ETFO's initial proposal includes a three-per-cent wage increase each year for three years plus a cost-of-living allowance.

Elementary teachers have been on an administrative strike since last month and have threatened to ramp it up for the next school year if no progress is made in bargaining over the summer.

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Mike Duffy, seen arriving to court in Ottawa, has pleaded not guilty to 31 charges.
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Friends lend Duffy support

SENATE SCANDAL

Despite scandal, old friends show up at trial

Eight weeks into the trial of Sen. Mike Duffy and its hours of dry testimony on paperwork and rules, the seats for courtroom guests are rarely full.

But on many days, a few neatly dressed, mostly grey-haired visitors will arrive to sit quietly beside, or directly behind, the parliamentarian and his wife Heather.

These are Duffy's true-blue friends — not the political ones that he imagined he had in spades up on Parliament Hill before 2013, but rather the pals from way back, from his time as a broadcaster and man about town.

Marie and Hugh Riopelle are tight enough with the senator that their names appear repeatedly in Duffy's daily electronic calendars, now part of the trial evidence.

Hugh, a former executive of Air Canada, met Duffy through the national press club in the 1970s.

Marie Riopelle comes to sit by her friends, while Hugh is 87 and not as mobile. She says that one cannot underestimate how emotionally devastating the trial has been for the Duffy family.

"That's what friends do," Riopelle said of her desire to come to the courtroom.

"They would do the same for us."

One Duffy friend who has repeatedly turned up is retired Hill reporter John Warren, who sometimes hitches a ride to the courthouse with the couple. Duffy and Warren both joined the press gallery in 1971, and live in the same area of Ottawa.

Warren, who worked as a broadcaster with the CBC, isn't arguing Duffy is innocent or guilty, but feels he's been "viciously treated" in the public sphere.

> **They could almost do what they wanted, and nobody seemed to know or could advise anybody on anything.**
> Jarad Hanlon

"It has to be terribly painful to Mike and Heather Duffy to see this day in and day out and to endure that kind of abuse," said Warren, who co-wrote a 1993 book on Parliament Hill excesses with now CTV reporter Bob Fife called Capital Scandal.

CHARGES

The suspended senator and former Conservative faces 31 counts of fraud, breach of trust and bribery, all related to expenses and contracts he signed.

Duffy's circle of friends is also a reminder of his deep roots in Ottawa, another facet of the trial. After becoming a senator, he claimed nearly $90,000 in living expenses for a home he had lived in for several years, while declaring a residence in Prince Edward Island as his primary residence.

Duffy has pleaded not guilty to 31 charges of fraud, breach of trust and bribery.

Earlier in the trial, an elderly man from Surrey, P.E.I., had his son from Ottawa bring him up to the courthouse. All broad smiles and open arm gestures, Duffy treated the visitor as if he was coming up for a coffee in his Senate office and not standing outside an airless courtroom.

"I was sitting in on the session this morning and all the rules and regulations seem to be tied in the middle and loose on both ends," said Jarad Hanlon, who also claimed he knew some of the same people in P.E.I. as Duffy.

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POLICING

Carding changed but not ended

Ontario will regulate but not ban police street checks, a controversial tactic known as carding that critics say amounts to racial profiling.

It's not acceptable for police to stop and question a member of a racialized community for no reason, then record that person's information in a database, Community Safety Minister Yasir Naqvi said Tuesday.

"It is clear that the status quo in these cases is not acceptable and cannot continue," he said.

But when asked why he wouldn't eliminate police street checks altogether, Naqvi said it's important both for police to be able to engage with communities and that they're able to investigate any suspicious activity.

Desmond Cole, a journalist and activist who has spoken out about his own experiences of being carded, said the practice often amounts to racial profiling.

Naqvi acknowledged there is "ample" evidence of bias and discrimination in police street checks.

Under Supreme Court of Canada case law, police officers already need an "articulable cause" to stop someone, Naqvi noted. And people are under no obligation to identify themselves to police who stop them in street checks, Naqvi said.

But it's not that simple, argued Cole. Police are authority figures who can suggest that, even though someone has the right to walk away, it would be in their "best interest" to answer questions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wynne scoffs at spies' fears about minister

ESPIONAGE

CSIS warned of Michael Chan's 'close ties' to Chinese brass

Premier Kathleen Wynne is dismissing concerns from Canada's spy agency that one of her cabinet ministers was under the influence of a foreign government, calling them "baseless."

The Globe and Mail reported Tuesday that the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) warned the Ontario government in 2010 that Michael Chan may have been susceptible to influence by the Chinese government and had "unusually close ties to Chinese officials."

Chan, who is now the minister of citizenship, immigration and international trade, has served with honour in the Ontario government and he is one of the hardest-working people she has ever met, Wynne said Tuesday.

"I understand that this story has resurfaced, but as I say, this is something that was made public in 2010 and the concerns were deemed to be baseless," she said.

> **There are people outside our country ... who would seek to exert influence.... It's incumbent upon all public officials to be very diligent.**
> Justice Minister Peter MacKay

When The Globe and Mail began asking questions again recently, Wynne said she asked her own staff to revisit the issue.

"There was still nothing of substance that came forward," she said.

CSIS did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

A spokesman for Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney said it is a matter for the Ontario government to address.

Chan was not immediately available for an interview but told The Globe and Mail that CSIS alleged he owned property in China and had asked the then-consul general directly for a visa and suggested that if favours were granted, reciprocation could be expected.

Chan told the newspaper the allegations were not true.

His spokesman said a 2009 delegation to China and discussions about cultural events were the reasons for Chan's frequent contact with the consul general. THE CANADIAN PRESS

COURTS FEDS MAY MISS DEADLINE ON ASSISTED-SUICIDE LAW The next government will probably need more time to respond to the Supreme Court's landmark decision on doctor-assisted death, Justice Minister Peter MacKay said Tuesday. In February, the high court ruled that the prohibition on physician-assisted suicide is an infringement of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The ruling gave Parliament a year to draft new legislation. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

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AVAYA

Street photos put focus on youth

ART

Homeless and at-risk kids share stories through camera

Taha Muharuma has more than 33,000 Instagram fans who follow him to see his stylized snapshots of city life.

But during a recent visit to Toronto's colour-drenched Graffiti Alley, the seasoned street photographer took a turn in front of the lens.

Muharuma wanted to better inform his two attentive students about the intricacies of composition and lighting.

This was more than just an advanced lesson on smartphone snapshots. For Gilad Cohen, it was an effort to help educate and uplift homeless and at-risk youth through the art of photography.

Cohen's non-profit organization Jayu, which shares human-rights stories using art, partnered with six Toronto-based photographers and the Horizons For Youth shelter for the project #CaptureTheStreets, which kicked off in the spring.

Each photographer zeroed in on a different element of mobile street photography. Youth participants then went to different parts of the city to fine-tune their skills with guidance from their photographer mentors.

"When you're working with an oppressed group, you're working with a group that's lost its voice," Cohen said.

"Through this project, we're hoping to empower them, but also to give them a platform to regain their voice and break down some of the negative stigma that follows the youth around in this community."

Yasmin Gilani seized the chance to take part in the project.

The 20-year-old said she learned tips and tricks from Muharuma on how to feature highlights and shadows in her shots. "It's helping me a lot because in the future, I'm planning on becoming a makeup artist.... For sure, I'm planning on posting my own pictures," said Gilani.

> **You're working with a group that's lost its voice.**
> Gilad Cohen

Cohen said the best photos from each youth will be displayed and for sale at galleries in Toronto. He said the project proved to be far more affecting than he had anticipated.

"We had one youth come in today and she said: 'You know, when I'm in the shelter, I feel like I'm homeless. But when I'm out with you guys, I feel like a regular person.'"

A social media campaign is encouraging users to take street photos and share their thoughts on youth homelessness using the hashtag #CaptureTheStreets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Photographer Taha Muharuma, right, works with George Bouck as part of the #CaptureTheStreets Project in Toronto last month. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A street photo project in Toronto is helping homeless and at-risk youth share stories through photos, including this one by George Amatus. GEORGE AMATUS/THE CANADIAN PRESS HANDOUT

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Ensaf Haidar, wife of Raif Badawi, stands next to a poster of a book of articles written by the imprisoned Saudi blogger, Tuesday in Montreal. THE CANADIAN PRESS/PAUL CHIASSON

Jailed Saudi blogger able to release book

1,000 LASHES

His wife Ensaf transcribed preface during phone calls

The wife of jailed Saudi blogger Raif Badawi says he has not lost his wit or desire to express himself through prose, even as he languishes in prison in poor health and struggles with low morale.

During one of Ensaf Haidar's twice-weekly phone calls with her husband, Badawi dictated an essay that became the preface to his new book, released in Quebec on Tuesday.

The 62-page, French-language book is a collection of 14 salvaged blog posts published between 2010 and 2012 that weren't destroyed by authorities.

The book is titled 1,000 Coups De Fouet, which translates to 1,000 lashes in English.

Those posts resulted in Badawi being sentenced to ten years in prison and 1,000 lashes for insulting the country's clerics.

Badawi's detention and sentence have stirred up worldwide condemnation and Quebec's immigration minister recently announced the province would accelerate immigration procedures for him.

While he is not a Canadian citizen, Haidar and his children fled Saudi Arabia in 2012 and settled in Sherbrooke, Que., in 2013.

Haidar took the microphone Monday and addressed those attending the launch in French — which she's is learning — thanking Amnesty International, the human rights organization that has been working to raise awareness about her husband's plight.

The Saudi Supreme Court recently upheld a lower court ruling that sentenced Badawi.

However, after a first session of 50 lashes in January, all others were postponed, apparently due to health concerns and undisclosed reasons.

Amnesty International and Haidar fear his punishment will resume in the near future.

"His health is not good and his morale is not good, but that's normal, he's been in prison for three years already," she said.

Haidar added it's difficult for her young children to grasp their jailed father is on the other end of the line.

"They need to play with him and touch him. Talk to him. To laugh and smile with him,'' she said.

GIUSEPPE VALIANTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"His health is not good and his morale is not good, but that's normal, he's been in prison for three years already."
Raif Badawi's wife Ensaf Haidar

TEXTS

Badawi tells of time in prison

The book titled "1,000 coups de fouet," which translates to 1,000 lashes in English, published in Quebec by Montreal-based Edito, was also released earlier this year in Germany.

Profits will be split between the publisher and Badawi's family. Badawi's texts are simple, witty and sarcastic: they discuss how Saudi citizens can no longer "play the ostrich," ignoring how the country refuses to respect religious minorities.

His writing explores gender equality and how religious dogma can stifle innovation and creativity.

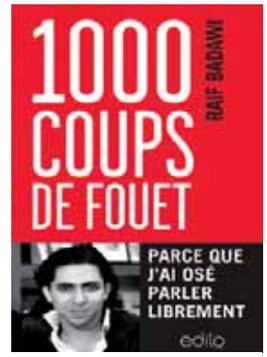
He discusses how citizens have the right to "believe and to reflect, to love or to hate, to be liberal or Islamist."

Badawi writes of the terrifying, excrement-laced bathroom he shares with other inmates in prison and its dirty, rusty walls covered in hundreds of graffiti markings.

"My eyes fall on the phrase: Secularism is the solution," he writes. "Stupefied, I rub my eyes to make sure I am reading correctly."

He continues discussing how in his new life in prison, the bathroom "plays a large role in the formulation of men's thoughts. As soon as I sit on the toilet bowl, ideas start to jostle around in my head.

GIUSEPPE VALIANTE / THE CANADIAN PRESS



Raif Badawi's French-language book. CONTRIBUTED

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SHELTER

Campaign pledges to help homeless

Twenty-one Canadian communities are banding together to try and find homes for 20,000 homeless people by 2018.

Cities in six provinces are recruiting volunteers to conduct local surveys of homeless populations to assess housing and health-care needs and build a database to help find permanent shelter for those most in need.

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness is spearheading the Canadian campaign, modeled on a similar U.S. program that found homes for more than 100,000 people over four years.

Among the 235,000 Canadians who experience homelessness each year, there are an estimated 33,000 known as the chronically homeless — those who struggle to find shelter in part because of complex psychological and medical problems.

A strategy known as Housing First has found that providing those people homes, backed up with social support, is more effective and cost-efficient at getting them off the street than first treating their underlying conditions.

Alliance CEO Tim Richter says the program will work with existing financial resources but in order to really end homelessness more meaningful federal investment will be required.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE BILL

In 2008, the federal government contributed $110 million for a five-year research project to explore the Housing First strategy compared to traditional programs.

Liberal Party Leader Justin Trudeau holds up a party brochure at an announcement on open government in Ottawa on Tuesday.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

VOICES-VOIX

Report accuses feds of stifling dissent

A coalition of 200 civil society organizations says it wants all political parties to explain to voters how they will ensure that criticism and dissent of the government is not punished by those in power.

That message accompanied the release Tuesday of a report by the coalition, known as Voices-Voix, that revived a complaint that has been voiced against the Conservatives in the past — that it is stifling dissent and suppressing democracy by punishing civil society groups that publicly disagree with its policies.

The coalition is framing its report in the context of the coming federal election, and is calling on all parties to renounce what it calls unprecedented harassment by the government against its critics.

"We have borne witness to hundreds of cases in which individuals, organizations and institutions have been intimidated, defunded, shut down or vilified by the federal government," says the 66-page report.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **"It's very, very important for Canadians that this not become the new normal.**
>
> Robert Fox, former head of Oxfam Canada

Trudeau vows he'll 'restore democracy'

ELECTION

Liberal leader wants to change the way Canadians vote

Justin Trudeau wants this fall's vote to be the last federal election conducted under the first-past-the-post electoral system.

And, if the Liberal leader becomes prime minister, it may also be the last election in which Canadians can choose not to vote, as well as the last in which the only way to vote is by marking an X on a paper ballot.

Changing the way Canadians vote is just one element of a sweeping, 32-point plan to "restore democracy in Canada" that Trudeau announced Monday.

Some of the measures have been previously announced, such as strengthening access-to-information laws; empowering backbench MPs by allowing more free votes and beefing up legislative oversight by Commons committees; and ending partisanship in the scandal-plagued Senate.

Others are new or build upon previous commitments.

Perhaps the most ambitious promise, however, is Trudeau's vow to do away with first-past-the-post (FPTP) in time for the next election.

The current system badly distorts voters' choices, allowing a party to win the majority of seats in the House of Commons with less than 40 per cent of the vote, and delivering wildly different seat counts to parties that win similar shares.

Trudeau promised he'd introduce electoral reform legislation within 18 months of forming government. The legislation would be based on the recommendations of a special, all-party parliamentary committee mandated to study alternatives to first-past-the-post, including ranked ballots and proportional representation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE PLAN

Trudeau promised a Liberal government would, among other things:

- Impose spending limits on political parties between elections, not just during election campaigns.
- Appoint an equal number of men and women to cabinet and adopt a government-wide appointment policy to ensure gender parity and greater representation of aboriginal people and other minorities.

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BUDGET

Mulcair touts fiscal credentials of NDP

Opposition Leader Tom Mulcair touted the strong record New Democrats have had when it comes to balancing budgets in a major speech Tuesday that sought to position his party as a fiscally responsible government-in-waiting.

On a day that resembled an election campaign — the main parties were all on the hustings — Mulcair took his economic vision to Canada's financial heartland, taking gentle jabs at his main political rivals, Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau.

"I don't believe budgets balance themselves, nor do I believe they become balanced just because you pass a law — zap you're balanced," Mulcair told the Economic Club of Canada.

Mulcair talked about NDP icons such as Tommy Douglas, Roy Romanow and former Manitoba premier Gary Doer — provincial leaders who balanced budgets — even as he took a shot at ex-Liberal MP Bob Rae, who racked up a massive deficit in the recession of the early 1990s as the New Democrat premier of Ontario, damaging the party's electoral fortunes in the province for years.

"The federal department of finance's own reports show that NDP governments are the best at balancing the books when in office," Mulcair said.

"There was one exception — but he turned out to be a Liberal."

Mulcair received a few rounds of polite applause as well as a warm standing ovation from the business crowd as he talked about New Democrat election planks — including cutting taxes for small businesses — and tried to stake out ground as champion of a middle class he said is being squeezed.

Harper's job-creation and economic-stimulation plans, Mulcair said, simply aren't working, leaving current generations worse off than their parents for the first time in Canadian history. He accused the prime minister and previous governments of standing idly by as hundreds of thousands of manufacturing jobs disappeared.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CEO implied extortion: Journalist

COURT

Freelancer suing John Furlong for defamation

A journalist who is suing former Vancouver Olympic CEO John Furlong for defamation says she was devastated and shocked after he implied she tried to extort money from him.

Laura Robinson told a civil trial that she was deeply disturbed by remarks Furlong made after her article was published in the Georgia Straight newspaper about his past in Burns Lake, B.C.

"There was no inkling in all my questions that I was part of some extortion scheme. It's a federal offence. It was just shocking," she testified on Tuesday.

The story included allegations by eight former students that Furlong had beaten and taunted them while working as a physical education teacher at a Roman Catholic elementary school in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

At a news conference in September 2012 after the story was published, Furlong said that he had been contacted prior to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games and was told that "for a payment it could be made to go away." He did not say who contacted him.

His lawyer John Hunter told reporters outside the courthouse Tuesday that his client "never" accused Robinson of extortion, but he declined to elaborate.

Hunter has said that Furlong's defence at trial will be qualified privilege, meaning he had a right to respond to Robinson's "attacks."

The lawyer has not yet had an opportunity to cross-examine Robinson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former Vancouver Olympics CEO John Furlong is pictured at B.C. Supreme Court in Vancouver, Monday.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

HALIFAX

Jet that crashed was mechanically sound

An Air Canada jet that crashed about 200 metres short of a runway at the Halifax airport during a March snowstorm had no major mechanical problems, the Transportation Safety Board says in a preliminary report released Tuesday.

Of the 133 passengers and five crew members aboard the flight from Toronto, 25 were injured.

The independent board's update says the Airbus 320-200 was correctly configured for landing, its air speed was consistent with a normal approach and there were no mechanical deficiencies with its engines, flight controls, landing gear and navigation systems.

25

25 of the 133 passengers and crew of Flight 624 were injured while landing during a snowstorm.

Lead investigator Doug McEwen said the investigation has not been completed, but his team has already taken a close look at the plane's engines, airframe and components.

The board's update also confirmed that the weather at the time of the crash was poor.

At 12:15 a.m. on March 29, the wind was gusting at 48 kilometres per hour from the north-northwest and forward visibility was 800 metres amid snow and drifting snow, the statement says. The plane hit the ground at 12:43 a.m. As well, the board says vertical visibility above the ground was just 91 metres.

Passengers have said the plane circled the airport for a half hour because the pilot said he was waiting for better visibility.

Shortly after the crash, Air Canada Chief Operating Officer Klaus Goersch said the weather was appropriate for landing.

In an emailed statement, an Air Canada spokesman said the airline wouldn't comment on an interim report.

The jet's flight-data recorder and cockpit voice recorder have been examined, but the board says it has yet to look into pilot training, experience and "human performance aspects."

McEwen said human performance refers to how members of the flight crew responded to one another in the cockpit and how they interacted with the cabin crew. The board's ongoing investigation will include producing an animation of the flight profile and reviewing cabin crashworthiness and the passenger evacuation procedures, among other things. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

American arrested at Manitoba border crossing

Border officers in Manitoba have arrested a man from Minnesota after they found a portable drug production lab in a backpack.

The Canada Border Services Agency says the man's car was stopped at the border crossing in Sprague on June 4.

Officers found materials for a suspected methamphetamine lab in a backpack in the vehicle.

They also seized a plastic bottle containing 85 grams of what they suspect is meth.

Specialized RCMP officers and firefighters were called in to dismantle the lab.

Derek Olson of Wadena, Minn. is charged with production of methamphetamine, importing/exporting methamphetamine and possession for the purpose of trafficking. He remains in custody. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The Donald seeks Republican nod to become The President

U.S. ELECTION

Real-estate mogul vows to bring American dream back

Donald Trump might never be president of the United States — at least not judging by the mockery from Democrats and mournful tweets from some Republicans following his campaign launch Tuesday.

But he just might have succeeded in carving out a place in American political history, with one of the more unusual announcement speeches of any candidate.

The bombastic billionaire arrived onstage by escalator, descending to the tune of Rocking In The Free World. His choice of theme music, a song about American decline sung by a Canadian liberal, Neil Young, was hardly the day's biggest surprise.

After toying for years with the idea of a presidential run, the real-estate mogul announced his plan to seek the Republican nomination.

He proceeded to speak without notes for nearly an hour, during which he:

• Insulted Mexicans:

Trump promised to build a wall along the border and force Mexico to pay for it. "They are not our friend, believe me. They are killing us economically. The U.S. has become a dumping ground for everybody else's problems. When Mexico sends its people, they are not sending their best... They are bringing drugs. They are bringing crime, their rapists, and some I assume are good people."

• Made bold promises:

"I will be the greatest jobs president that God ever created, I tell you that. I'll bring back our jobs from China, Japan, Mexico, so many other places. And I'll bring back our money."

• Drew sweeping conclusions from his Republican rivals' campaign launches, which he found lacking:

"They didn't know the air conditioner didn't work. They sweated like dogs. They didn't know the room was too big... How are they gonna beat ISIS?"

• Plugged his golf courses:

He insulted President Barack Obama for playing so much golf, then pivoted into a sales pitch: "I have the best courses in the world. So I'd say, if you want... I have one right next to the White House."

• Called many people stupid:

America's leaders for paying interest on debt; New York State officials who allowed prisoners to escape — all branded with the same dreaded epithet: "How stupid are our leaders?"

• Compared the Chinese to Super Bowl champion Tom Brady:

"I just sold an apartment for $15 million to someone from China. Am I supposed to dislike them?... I love China. But their leaders are much smarter than our leaders. It's like having Tom Brady and the New England Patriots playing a high-school football team."

• Issued tariff threats:

One of the things he'd do, he said, is call Ford's president and say: "Congrats on building the new plant in Mexico... Lemme give you the bad news.'' The bad news? A 35 per cent tax on every part made in Mexico, until Ford moves a plant to the U.S.

• Teased Secretary of State John Kerry for breaking his leg while bicycling:

Trump said he'd be busy preventing Iran from getting a nuclear weapon instead of cycling.

His speech carried several dire comparisons of the U.S. to a "Third World country" because of crumbling infrastructure. But he concluded on a positive note: "Sadly, the American dream is dead. But if I get elected president, I will bring it back — bigger, and better and stronger." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Supporters of real-estate developer Donald Trump, below, line the lobby of Trump Tower in New York Tuesday before his announcement that he will seek the Republican nomination for U.S. president. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

> **I'll bring back our jobs from China, Japan, Mexico, so many other places. And I'll bring back our money.**
> Donald Trump

$8.7 BILLION

Trump said his team of accountants had spent months tabulating his net worth. They finally settled on $8.7375 billion.

"I'm really rich. And by the way, I'm not even saying that (to) brag. That's the kind of mindset, the kind of thinking, you need for this country.... We have the opposite thinking: We have losers.''

GEORGIA

Lions, tigers found dead after flood

All of the lions and tigers that were missing after severe flooding swamped Tbilisi's zoo have been found dead. One jaguar remained unaccounted for, but zoo staff said they have little hope that it survived.

The discovery of the last of the missing lions and tigers on Tuesday as the waters receded eased fears in the capital of Georgia, an ex-Soviet republic, that some of the big cats were still wandering the hills of the city.

The human death toll rose to 19 on Tuesday as workers continued to comb the flood-damaged areas. Six people were still missing, the state security council said in a statement.

An intense downpour that began late Saturday turned a stream that runs through the city into a raging torrent that destroyed houses and tore up roads. About 40 families lost their homes.

Zoo spokeswoman Mziya Sharashidze said eight lions, all seven of the zoo's tigers and at least two of its three jaguars were killed. Only two of the zoo's 14 bears survived, she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Putin issues reminder of Russia's military might

Russia's military this year will receive over 40 new intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of piercing any missile defences, President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday at an arms show in Alabino, just west of Moscow.

Russia's relations with the West have plunged to their lowest point since Cold War times, over Moscow's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and support for a pro-Russia separatist insurgency in eastern Ukraine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TERRORISM

Powerful Yemeni Al-Qaida leader killed in U.S. airstrike

A U.S. airstrike has killed Al-Qaida's No. 2 leader, who commanded its powerful Yemeni affiliate, dealing the global network its biggest blow since the killing of Osama bin Laden and eliminating a charismatic leader at a time when it is vying with the Islamic State group for the mantle of global jihad.

Nasir al-Wahishi is the latest in a series of senior figures from al-Qaida's Yemen branch eliminated by U.S. drone strikes the past five months, including its top ideologue and a senior military commander.

The U.S. has intensified its campaign, trying to push back the group as it has captured new territory in Yemen by taking advantage of the southern Arabian nation's chronic chaos.

The U.S. activity against al-Qaida is also not limited to Yemen. Over the weekend, a U.S. airstrike in Libya targeted an al-Qaida-linked militant commander, Mokhtar Belmokhtar, who led a 2013 attack on an Algerian gas complex that killed 35 hostages including several Americans.

U.S. officials are still trying to confirm whether he was killed in the raid.

Al-Wahishi was a former aide to bin Laden who, after the al-Qaida affiliate in Saudi Arabia was crushed in the mid-2000s, rebuilt it in his homeland Yemen and turned it into the terror network's most dangerous branch. The U.S. put a bounty of up to $10 million on al-Wahishi.

The Yemeni branch, known as al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, claimed responsibility for January's attack on the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo that killed 12 people.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Balcony collapse kills students

CALIFORNIA

Many of the victims were visiting U.S. from Ireland

A 21st-birthday party thrown by a group of visiting Irish college students turned tragic early Tuesday when the fourth-floor balcony they were crowded on collapsed with a sharp crack, spilling 13 people about 50 feet onto the pavement. Six people were killed and seven seriously injured.

Police and fire and building officials were working to figure out why the roughly five-by-10-foot concrete-floor balcony broke loose from the side of the stucco apartment building, situated a couple of blocks from the campus of the University of California, Berkeley.

High school student Jason Biswas' family nearby was awakened by the noise.

"They thought there was an earthquake, but then we looked out the window and saw seven or eight people on the ground," the 16-year-old said. "There were piles of blood everywhere."

A woman cries as she leaves flowers at the scene of a balcony collapse at an apartment building near UC Berkeley on Tuesday in Berkeley, Calif. JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Five of the dead were 21-year-olds from Ireland who were in the country on so-called J-1 visas that enable young people to work and travel in the U.S. over the summer, while the sixth victim was from California, authorities said.

The news brought an outpouring of grief in Ireland, from the prime minister on down.

Police had gotten a complaint about a loud party in the apartment about an hour before the accident but had not yet arrived when the balcony gave way just after 12:30 a.m., spokesman Byron White said. Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said police told him 13 people were on the balcony.

"I just heard a bang and a lot of shouting," said Dan Sullivan, a 21-year-old student from Ireland who was asleep in the five-storey building. Mark Neville, another Irish student in the building, said: "I walked out and I saw rubble on the street and a bunch of Irish students crying."

Berkeley police Chief Michael Neeham said the response to the noise complaint had been given a lower priority after police received a call of shots fired elsewhere. Police arrived to find the metal-rail balcony had fallen off the side of the building and landed on the third-floor balcony beneath it.

Berkeley officials said the building code would have required the balcony to hold 60 pounds per square foot, which in this case would work out to somewhere around 3,000 pounds — more than 13 normal-size people.

Investigators will probably look first at whether the balcony was built to code and whether rain or other weather weakened it, said Kevin Moore, a San Francisco engineer and chairman of the structural standards committee of the Structural Engineers Association of California. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK

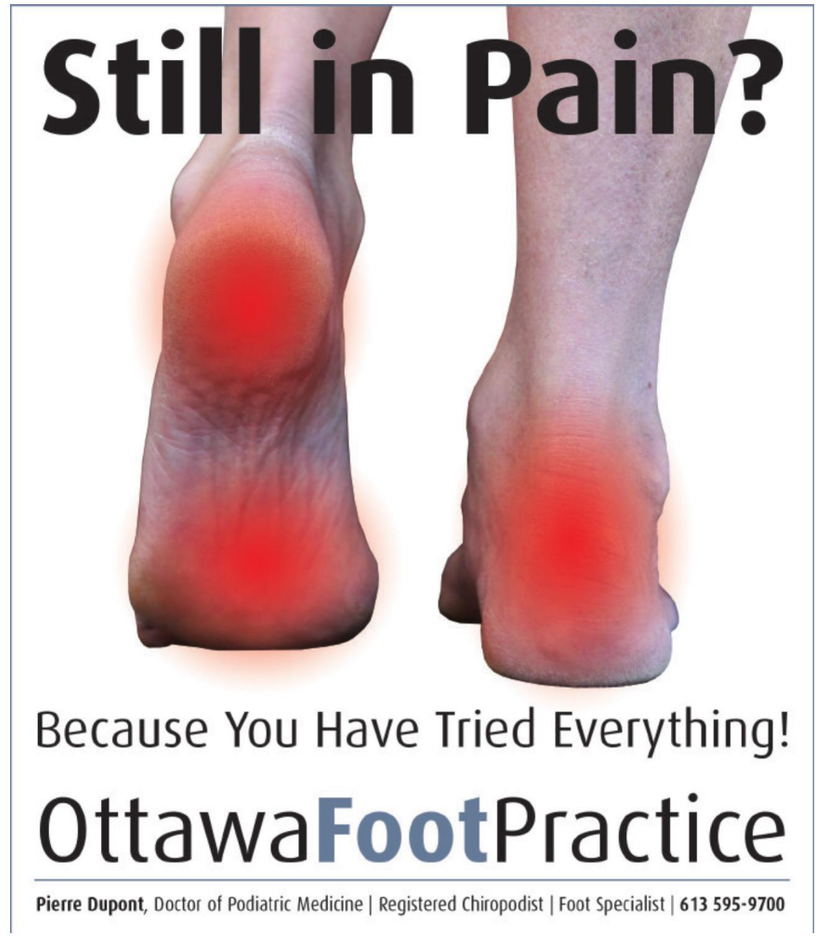
Weather disrupts search for convicts

Search teams hindered by cool, rainy weather combed through woods in far northern New York for an 11th day trying to track down two escaped murderers as one official raised doubts Tuesday that they relied solely on a now-jailed prison worker to help them get away after their breakout.

More than 800 law enforcement officers who are searching for David Sweat and Richard Matt shifted their focus eastward along Route 374 leading from the village of Dannemora, home of Clinton Correctional Facility.

Clinton County Sheriff David Favro said rain has been washing away any scent search dogs might find and interfering with thermal imaging devices being used to detect body heat.

Favro said Tuesday that while he has "no concrete information," he doesn't believe the escapees would have counted only on Joyce Mitchell for the ultimate success of their escape plan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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More than 1 in 3 families at debt limit

POLL

Homeowners would face hard times with a 10% increase

Nearly half of Canadian homeowners are taking steps to cut their mortgage debt, but many would be in trouble if their monthly payments grew even slightly, a survey by Manulife Bank of Canada suggests.

Manulife said 18 per cent of homeowners made extra lumpsum payments towards their mortgages in the past year, while 17 per cent increased their regular payments. Another five per cent of respondents did both.

In total, 40 per cent of the homeowners polled made extra mortgage payments during the past year, while 60 per cent did not. The average amount was $6,300.

However, the survey found more than a third of homeowners would face financial hardship if their mortgage payments increased by just 10 per cent.

"Having your payments go up 10 per cent sounds like a lot, but if you have a $200,000 mortgage and interest rates go up one per cent, that's a 10 per cent increase in your mortgage payments," Lunny said. "So there's not much room here for those people."

Another 15 per cent of homeowners said they couldn't handle any increases to their mortgage.

Manulife polled 2,372 Canadian homeowners in all provinces from Feb. 10 to 27. Respondents were all aged 20 to 59 and had a minimum household income of $50,000.

The polling industry's professional body, the Marketing Research and Intelligence Association, said online surveys cannot be assigned a margin of error. THE CANADIAN PRESS

PARIS BOEING STRIKES BIG DEAL AT AIR SHOW Korean Air CEO Cho Yang-Ho and Boeing Commercial Airplanes president and CEO Ray Conner pose at the International Paris Airshow at Le Bourget. Boeing landed the biggest order of the show so far with a deal for 100 of its 737s yesterday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Activists depart from talks over use of facial recognition software

Retailers have the ability to scan your face digitally, or even recognize you as a prior shoplifter. But should they use it? Should they need your permission first?

Privacy advocates announced Tuesday they have walked away from a government-run effort with industry intended to answer these questions. The nine major privacy groups said they had hit a dead end and that "people deserve more protection than they are likely to get in this forum." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro

Ottawa Jazz Festival

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

The TD Ottawa Jazz Festival, which runs from June 18 to July 1, is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. BRIAN GOLDSCHMIED PHOTO

Huey Lewis and The News will hit the Main Stage at Confederation Park June 24 at 8:30 p.m. CONTRIBUTED

The Roots will play the TD Ottawa Jazz Festival Main Stage at Confederation Park Saturday at 9 p.m. CONTRIBUTED

Get back into the swing of things

Jen Traplin
For Metro

It started out as a weekend of jazz in the open air of Major's Hill Park in 1980. Now in its 35th year running, the TD Ottawa Jazz Festival has evolved into one of the region's marquee summer events.

The festival gives music lovers a chance to check out performances over nearly two weeks in a number of venues, including the Main Stage in Confederation Park, the National Arts Centre, the Rideau Centre, Mercury Lounge, and the Brookstreet Hotel.

Catherine O'Grady, the festival's executive director, believes the TD Ottawa Jazz Festival offers a great combination of collective and individual listening experiences.

"If you want a big experience, the music in Confederation Park — outdoors, under the stars, sitting with your loved ones or neighbours — is where you want to be. If you want an acoustic, just-here-for-the-music experience, then the acoustic brilliance of the halls at the NAC is where you want to be," she said.

The vision for the festival, O'Grady adds, has and always will be one of diversity, creativity and good, old-fashioned jazz.

"That's the foundation for all of our choices this year and every year," she said. "Jazz is different for the lover of traditional jazz and the listener who lives on the edge of improvisation, so the artistic choices we make have to reflect those esthetics and those very personal listening experiences."

To mark the opening of the this year's TD Ottawa Jazz Festival, the Kaleidoscope Orchestra – a special ensemble created by festival programming manager Petr Cancura – will gather for a true brass jam session around the fountain in Confederation Park from 4-6 p.m. on Thursday.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION

- Festival Passes (June 18 to July 1); $310 — Gold; $190 — Bronze; $90 — Youth (ages 12-25)
- Daily tickets for concerts in Confederation Park and Marion Dewar Plaza range from $35 to $90. Tickets for the OLG After Dark Series are $20. Tickets for the Studio Series are $40. All taxes and fees included.
- For tickets and more information, visit ottawajazzfestival.com.

Ottawa-born Bruce Cockburn is on this year's jazz festival playlist and takes the stage Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Laurier Avenue Music Stage at Marion Dewar Plaza. KEVIN KELLY PHOTO

Challenge accepted

Keith Carman
For Metro

"I think I'm finally considering myself a songwriter again," guitarist/singer/songwriter Bruce Cockburn admits dryly.

Pardon? With all due respect, Cockburn is a Canadian institution. Over the span of four-plus decades, his music has become ingrained in our nation's identity, heralded acclaim across the globe, and been covered by an enviable roster of legendary artists.

With an official album count that has just surpassed 30 releases, a full-fledged documentary, and tunes that are seemingly on repeat across the country's radio stations, how is it that Cockburn fails to see himself in a musical light?

It's simple — the past few years have seen him picking up a pen more than a guitar pick.

"I just spent three years writing my memoirs," the Ottawa-born minstrel said. "I've been focused on Rumours of Glory (HarperCollins) more than on songs, so now I'm waiting around for enough material for a new album. There are a couple of new songs. I've been writing but haven't decided that they're entirely finished yet. They appear in due course."

Fair game. One doesn't reach iconic status merely by shovelling out tune after tune. Cockburn is adamant that as a bona fide music enthusiast, any new material bearing his name must also be a personal challenge. If it's too easy, there is something not quite right.

"I often put demands on myself instrumentally that require me to learn," he said, refusing to adhere to an official release date for any upcoming tracks. "Working at it makes you become a better player over the years. I have to learn; challenge myself."

Chris Botti invites you on a smooth-playing journey

Steve Collins
For Metro

Chris Botti apologizes for the rasp in his voice.

"I'm super under the weather. My voice is more like Barry White than myself today."

For the smooth-playing, hard-touring trumpeter, occasional head colds come with the territory.

"I'm really lucky. This will be my 11th year of touring pretty much non-stop, a couple hundred shows a year and this will be our biggest year ever."

Home, on the comparatively rare occasions when he's there, is a hotel room in New York.

"I had a house in L.A. for about five years and possessions and all that stuff kinda didn't get my mojo going so I checked out and sold everything and moved back into the hotel about a year ago," he said.

In lieu of home improvements, he has renovated his band.

"This is going to be the very first time we come through with our new drummer, this incredible drummer Lee Pearson, and Geoffrey Keezer's on piano now where I was using Billy Childs, so we've made some key changes there.

"And then we have back with us two of the stars of our Live in Boston DVD. One, the great violinist Lucia Micarelli, and the other one is Sy Smith, the singer, so the set is able to move around between a couple of different vocalists and, obviously, Lucia is an exquisite talent on the violin, so the audience gets to go on a journey."

And Botti is keen to keep them company on that journey. When he goes to a show himself, few things bother him more than watching performers plug monitors in their ears and then unplug from their audience, barely speaking to or even acknowledging them.

"The jazz world is filled with musicians that don't talk to the audience, so I figured I'd be the one that would."

Chris Botti. CONTRIBUTED

SUNDAY

Chris Botti plays the TD Ottawa Jazz Festival's Main Stage in Confederation Park on Sunday at 8 p.m. His band and special guests include — Lee Pearson (drums), Ben Butler (guitar) Geoffrey Keezer (piano), Richie Goods (bass), Sy Smith (vocals), Lucia Micarelli (violin), George Komsky (keyboards) and Andrew Ezrin (keyboards).

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HUEY LEWIS AND THE NEWS
PINK MARTINI
WAR
JAMIE CULLUM
TOWER OF POWER
CHRIS BOTTI
BEIRUT
THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA & THE DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND
MS. LISA FISCHER AND GRAND BATON
TANYA TAGAQ
BRUCE COCKBURN
JOEL PLASKETT EMERGENCY
THE WOOD BROTHERS
THE STANLEY CLARKE BAND
AN EVENING WITH BRANFORD MARSALIS
JAGA JAZZIST
ANTONIO SÁNCHEZ & MIGRATION
TIMBER TIMBRE
GROENLAND
RICHARD GALLIANO AND SYLVAIN LUC
GYPSOPHILIA
SPOTLIGHT ON EURO JAZZ EN VEDETTE
RENEE ROSNES QUARTET
DAVE DOUGLAS & HIGH RISK

THURSDAY, JUNE 18

04:00pm – Kaleidoscope Orchestra

FRIDAY, JUNE 19

12:00pm – César Ricardo Band
06:00pm – Fourth Landscape
06:30pm – Jacques Kuba Séguin (FR)
07:00pm – Avi Lebovich Orchestra
07:30pm – Lucky Chops
08:30pm – Ms. Lisa Fischer and Grand Baton
10:30pm – The Soul Rebels

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

11:00am – Youth Series
12:00pm – Dominique Forest & Friends
02:00pm – Victor Nesrallah
06:00pm – Cyrille Aimée
06:30pm – Duchess
07:00pm – Kenny Werner Trio
07:30pm – Bruce Cockburn
08:00pm – Joe McPhee/Nicolas Caloia/Jesse Stewart
09:00pm – The Roots
10:30pm – Reuben and the Dark

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

11:00am – Youth Series
12:00pm – The Jazz CO-OP
02:00pm – Steve Groves Quartet
06:00pm – Saxofour
06:30pm – Bria Skonberg Quintet
07:00pm – Renee Rosnes Quartet
08:00pm – Eric Boeren 4tet
08:00pm – Chris Botti
09:00pm – Renee Rosnes Quartet
10:30pm – Timber Timbre

MONDAY, JUNE 22

12:00pm – Doug Martin Quartet
12:00pm – Harea Band
05:00pm – Maria João & Mário Laginha
06:00pm – Ranee Lee Quintet
07:00pm – Swedish AZZ
07:00pm – WAR
09:00pm – Paal Nilssen-Love Large Unit
09:00pm – Tower of Power
10:30pm – Sonny Knight & The Lakers

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

12:00pm – Beeched Wailers
12:00pm – The Kingmakers
06:00pm – Pascal Schumacher
06:30pm – Robi Botos featuring Seamus Blake
07:00pm – An Evening with Branford Marsalis
07:30pm – Cossette Combo
08:00pm – Emil Viklicky "Grand Moravia" Trio
08:30pm – Down by the Riverside Feat.
The Blind Boys of Alabama &
The Dirty Dozen Brass Band
09:00pm - An Evening with Branford Marsalis
10:30pm – Moon Hooch

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

12:00pm – The Karen Oxorn Quartet
12:00pm – The Sun Crescent Barbeque Stompers
06:00pm – Cloudmakers Trio
06:30pm – Joel Miller & Honeycomb
07:00pm – The Stanley Clarke Band
07:30pm – Kat Edmonson
08:00pm – Julia Hülsmann Trio
08:30pm – Huey Lewis and The News
10:30pm – Freshlyground

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

12:00pm – Claire Devlin Quintet Feat. Emily Denison
12:00pm – Old Stereo
06:00pm – Alarmist
06:30pm – Gypsophilia
07:00pm – A Filetta – Paolo Fresu &
Daniele Di Bonaventura
07:30pm – Lindi Ortega
08:00pm – Giulia Valle Trio
08:30pm – Steve Miller Band
09:00pm – Enrico Rava Tribe Feat. Gianluca Petrella
10:30pm – Ikebe Shakedown

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

12:00pm – Danielle Allard
12:00pm – The Jivewires
06:00pm – Obara International Quartet
06:30pm – Eli Bennett Quartet
07:00pm – Dave Douglas & High Risk
07:30pm – Rebecca Noelle
08:00pm – Kyle Shepherd Trio
08:30pm – Joel Plaskett Emergency
09:00pm – Antonio Sánchez & Migration
10:30pm – My Brightest Diamond

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

12:00pm – Richard Page's Night On the Town Band
12:00pm – Caridad Cruz
02:00pm – The Grace Hrabi Quartet
02:00pm – trio\DEF (Drouin/Eagles/Froman)
06:00pm – Céline Bonacina Trio
06:30pm – Jenna Glatt
07:00pm – Louis Moholo-Moholo Quartet
07:30pm – Peregrine Falls
08:00pm – Airelle Besson & Nelson Veras – Prelude
08:30pm – Snarky Puppy
10:30pm – Groenland

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

12:00pm – Jazz Goes Folk
12:00pm – Mackenzie Rhythm Section
02:00pm – The Four Heavies
02:00pm – Los Gringos
06:00pm – Stian Westerhus
06:30pm – Afro Cuban Jazz & Beyond
07:30pm – Christine Jensen Jazz Orchestra with Ingrid Jensen
08:00pm – GoGo Penguin
08:30pm – Beirut
10:30pm – The Wood Brothers

MONDAY, JUNE 29

12:00pm – East Side Quartet
12:00pm – Miguel de Armas Quartet
06:00pm – Kneebody
06:30pm – Michael Bates' Northern Spy
07:00pm – Richard Galliano & Sylvain Luc
07:30pm – Busty and the Bass
08:00pm – Jef Neve
08:30pm – Pink Martini
10:30pm – Robin McKelle & The Flytones

TUESDAY, JUNE 30

12:00pm – Steve Bilodeau Trio
12:00pm – Kelly Craig Sextet
06:00pm – Tin Men & The Telephone
06:30pm – TD Jazz Youth Summit
07:00pm – Abdullah Ibrahim "Mukashi" Trio
07:30pm – Tanya Tagaq
08:00pm – Nils Berg Cinemascope
08:30pm – Jamie Cullum
10:30pm – Jaga Jazzist

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1 - FREE

01:00pm – Jill Zmud
02:00pm – TD Jazz Youth Summit & Stingray Rising Stars
03:00pm – Brianna Gosse
04:00pm – The Central Band of the
Canadian Armed Forces Jazz Quintet
05:00pm – Zaki Ibrahim
06:00pm – The Heavyweights Brass Band

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STANLEY CLARKE

Changing with the times

Having spent more than 40 years in the music business, pioneering jazz musician and composer Stanley Clarke boasts an impressive resumé. He has also played witness to the evolution of the industry over the last four decades.

"The music business has really transformed," the four-time Grammy award winner said. "It's almost not even a business in a sense that includes artists because you can make a record today and, as soon as you release it, it's free. The record or the CD or the MP3, whatever it is we do, really is becoming more and more like a signature card for an artist."

The current state of the industry has led Clarke to proclaim his desire to explore releasing his material independently after his current record label commitment is fulfilled. Quite simply, he said, times have changed.

"Years ago, musicians would sign with record labels because of the perceived glamour that entails, but labels aren't putting as much promotion behind their artists.

"A lot of that has to do with the culture these days. I really can't blame it on anybody. My views are changing every week because you have to, this is moving too fast. It's just the way it is."

That being said, Clarke believes for those who have had long, established careers like he has, this is actually a good place to be.

"Guys like me, and there's a lot of us older artists, we play concerts and festivals and what's great is there's always a certain percentage of people in the audience who are in their 20s and they'll come up to me and tell me they saw me on YouTube, so that's really cool. It's the nostalgia factor.

"I feel something for the guys who are just coming out. They have to contend with millions of artists because technology has empowered pretty much everybody."

JEN TRAPLIN

The Stanley Clarke Band will play the NAC Studio June 24 at 7 p.m. CONTRIBUTED

The Blind Boys of Alabama continue to garner endless praise and a broadening fan base. CAMERON WITTING PHOTO

Unparalleled joie de vivre

Keith Carman
For Metro

Few things are as inspirational — or infectious — as a laugh.

One can hear Blind Boys of Alabama founder/singer Jimmy Carter struggling to stifle his inherent desire to chuckle for no reason; he is so enthused with life. It perks the corners of your own lips.

How could anyone blame him? Having formed the five-time Grammy award-winning, blues-infused gospel group in 1944, Blind Boys of Alabama has become a hallmark of its own. Adored internationally, honoured by fellow musicians, and revered for an inimitable style, Carter's existence — and more directly, the music — has been wonderful.

"After 70 years at it, music sure has made my life better," he beamed with an audible smile. "We love to do what we do. We've been singing for many years. It's an ongoing thing we'll keep doing as long as we can. It keeps you young. When you love what you do, it keeps you inspired and motivated. I love life and I'm glad I'm still around. I love people and I'm just a loving guy."

Completed by vocalists Ben Moore, Clarence Fountain and Paul Beasley, drummer/percussionist/vocalist Eric (Ricky) McKinnie, guitarist/vocalist Joey Williams, bassist Tracy Pierce and organist Peter Levin, Blind Boys of Alabama are still garnering endless praise and a broadening fan base. Carter revels in knowing that the troupe is appealing to younger souls, an accolade he attributes to the aforementioned positivity and joie de vivre.

"We're trying to entertain but also touch lives. No negativity. We want to make people feel good. When we go out there, we tell them we want to make them feel something they've never felt before. When you come to a Blind Boys concert and go back feeling the same? We don't like that. We want it to bring encouragement, hope and make life better.

"Like I said, I've been singing for several decades and I haven't gotten tired of it yet. We'll continue on until the Lord says, 'That's enough.'"

MAIN STAGE

The Blind Boys of Alabama will play the Main Stage at Confederation Park June 23 at 8:30 p.m.

Not afraid to leap outside the box

When Jazzfest announced its lineup this year, the genre police came for Lindi Ortega.

"There was some funny feedback on Twitter," said the Nashville-by-way-of-Toronto singer/songwriter.

"They were like, 'Oh, she's not jazz or whatever.' You know what? Music is music. Music can be boxed into a category, but it doesn't have to be and I like it when festivals do take that leap outside of the box."

Ortega, who has drawn comparisons to Dolly Parton and Emmylou Harris, had another square peg moment last month at San Bernardino's Lost Highway Motorcycle Show and Concert. The festival featured two stages, one with Toby Keith and the Eli Young Band, the other amped-up offerings like Reverend Horton Heat, Social Distortion — and Ortega.

"It's just funny, talking about genres and that, and in that realm I'm not really considered country; I'm considered more of the other thing."

On her upcoming album, Faded Gloryville, Ortega pursues yet another "other thing."

"It's a bit different than my other records in that I decided to do a few soul kind of songs," she said. "I've always sort of been inspired by that for a long time. I love Otis Redding and Solomon Burke and Etta James."

STEVE COLLINS

Lindi Ortega appears on the Laurier Avenue Music Stage at Marion Dewar Plaza June 25 at 7:30 p.m. CONTRIBUTED

DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND

Music for mind, body and your soul

Idle hands are the devil's workshop.

While this adage has been proven time and again, it's one that certainly doesn't apply to New Orleans-based brass septet Dirty Dozen Brass Band.

Formed in 1977 and revered for melding the worlds of funk and bebop into otherwise traditional New Orleans jazz, this legendary acts output is virtually unrivalled, as is their mind-numbing work schedule. From a seemingly endless stream of albums and guest spots to a dizzying host of live dates, downtime is something these eight performers rarely enjoy.

This year has already found them playing festivals across the globe, gearing up for a European tour, enjoying shows in Las Vegas, Brooklyn and England. Not to mention backing legendary artist Dr. John. All while still teaching music classes in New Orleans.

"The hustle doesn't stop," baritone saxophonist Roger Lewis said with a laugh. "I've got 365 shows booked for this year. You'd think we'd burn out but we keep going. (People) call with gigs, so I'm busy all of the time. Trying to fit it all in is ... I make it work."

The Dirty Dozen Brass Band clearly don't mind. With a unified vision of amalgamating jazz and R&B sub-genres and bringing a new style to anyone with a set of eardrums, the more dates, the merrier. Even if it does mean little time for anything else.

"I always tell everyone that we've got music for your mind, body and soul," Lewis said. "There are intellectual aspects, comedy and a lot more. We want to offer something to make you feel deep down inside. It's complete.

"So many people go to jobs they don't like and just have to get through the day. When they come hear us, it's a release. Maybe they catch something they've never heard before and it changes their life. That's what we're all about — having a good time and making people happy."

The Dirty Dozen Brass Band will perform June 23 at 8 p.m. on the Main Stage at Confederation Park.

KEITH CARMAN

TOWER OF POWER

As Tower of Power (TOP) approaches its funky 50th anniversary, band leader Emilio Castillo says they aren't only recording new songs for a celebratory album, but also for one after that.

"My idea was to record more than we need and pick the best 12 and then have a surplus for another release sometime after that," he said, retirement nowhere in sight.

This will be the band's first release since 2013's live album, Hipper Than Hip: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, a recording from the height of its career in 1974.

TOP found new audiences last year when they joined fellow Bay-area veterans Journey and The Steve Miller Band on their San Francisco Fest Tour.

"I think a large part of the reason for that is our new singer, Ray Greene. He's really easy to like. He's got this manner about him that just sucks you in."

Tower of Power performs on the TD Ottawa Jazz Festival Main Stage in Confederation Park June 22 at 9 p.m.

STEVE COLLINS

GROENLAND

Groenland's Sabrina Halde is in shock.

"Since our first real show, the attention around us has only been getting more and more intense," she said with an air of awe and sheepishness.

Overseeing a multitude of aspects in the Montreal-based band from vocals and ukelele through keyboards and percussion, Halde barely contains her enthusiasm at the thought of just how far they have come in five short years.

Forming in 2010 and releasing debut full-length The Chase (Bonsound Records) circa 2013, the wheels haven't stopped spinning for Groenland.

"We thought that The Chase would have gotten old by now, but there are places in the world people haven't heard it. It's still new to them. Us? It feels like so long ago. We're getting aggressive to have new stuff. There are a couple of new songs we've written but we want more; a full album. We're like, 'Let do this!'"

Groenland will play the Laurier Avenue Music Stage at Marion Dewar Plaza June 27 at 10:30 p.m. **KEITH CARMAN**

PINK MARTINI

Thomas Lauderdale wants you to dance.

"It's so helpful to see the audience moving," said the founder and bandleader of Pink Martini. "Lately, we've tried to have a couple of moments in every show when people come onstage and dance.

"I like it very much when people come onstage and dance or people are in the aisles dancing, and that's happening more and more and more."

For its Jazzfest appearance, the multilingual, genre-hopping "little orchestra" is fronted by founding singer China Forbes, who splits Pink Martini's tour dates with co-vocalist Storm Large.

Forbes, Lauderdale said, has the more "elegant" stage presence, while Large brings more "rock 'n' roll" to her shows.

"It keeps it more interesting for everybody involved. It makes it so that nobody becomes too used to anything, and I think that's a good thing."

Pink Martini plays the Main Stage in Confederation Park June 29 at 8:30 p.m.

STEVE COLLINS

THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

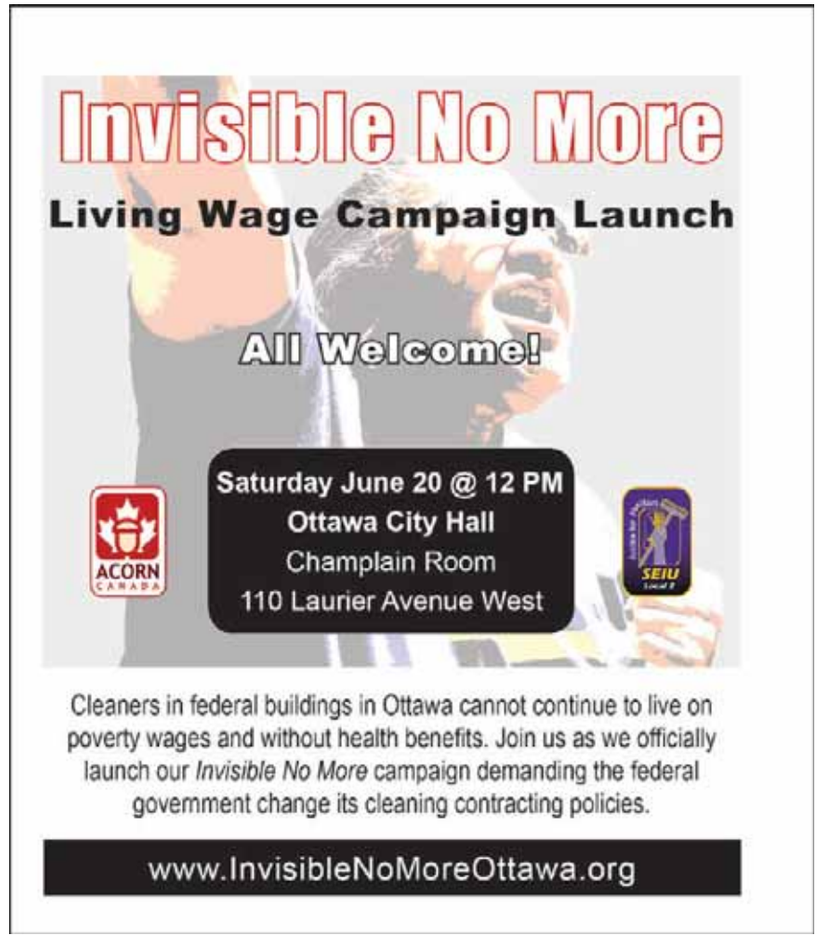
Like many legendary jazz artists before them, The Heavyweights Brass Band is rooted in New Orleans jazz, but aren't afraid to incorporate a vast array of other elements into their music, be it funk, R&B or salsa.

The Toronto-based band is clearly influenced by its surroundings. Even the liner notes for The Heavyweights Brass Band's latest effort, Brasstronomical, pays homage to the impact the city has on the group and its desire to represent Toronto's musical and cultural diversity.

"Toronto is such an interesting place right now," said Chris Butcher, the band's co-leader and trombone player. "We have people from all over the world, we have all these cultures in this city, we need to make our own sound.

"You look at all the great cities — Miami has a sound, New York has invented so many genres of music, Detroit with Motown. These cities have their sound. To me, it's like, 'What is Toronto's sound?'"

The Heavyweights Brass Band will play the Main Stage at Confederation Park July 1 at 6 p.m. **JEN TRAPLIN**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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, June 17, 2015

PRO CON

Is home-schooling a good idea?

YES: Home-schoolers are high achievers

Mom and dad make great teachers — and they're choosing to fill that role more than ever. A Fraser Institute study released Tuesday showed home-schooling grew 29 per cent in Canada from 2007 to 2012, while public school enrollment fell 2.5 per cent. The authors cited research suggesting home-schooled children score higher on academic tests, if they follow a structured program. The institute, which is conservative and favours parental choice, also pointed out that home-schooling saves governments $256 million each year.

NO: School is the best place to learn social skills

Many parents worry home-schooled kids miss out on the intangible benefits of going to school that are hard to capture in studies, such as learning how to make friends. Also, the evidence of home-schooling's academic benefits is scant — one Canadian study the Fraser Institute cites had only 74 participants. Another, though its sample size was in the thousands, involved home-schooling families who chose to participate and was authored by the president of the National Home Education Research Institute.

Science and society show gender is fluid

THE SCIENCE
Stephanie Orford

Until very recently, we thought about gender the way we think about signs on washroom doors. There are two options: male and female.

But at least since endocrinologist Harry Benjamin first published research about his transgender patients in the 1960s, scientists have observed that people have a range of gender identities.

"The notion ... that there are only two sexes has actually been frequently overturned in science," says Elizabeth Saewyc, a professor of nursing and adolescent medicine at UBC who leads the Stigma and Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre at UBC. "There's a bit more of a continuum."

Now Canadians' awareness of gender variation is finally catching up with the science. As discussions about gender identity hit the mainstream, we need to make sure sensitivity and respect are always part of the conversation.

Many Canadians had a gender epiphany earlier this month when Caitlyn Jenner, formerly Bruce Jenner, pushed transgender issues into the mainstream with her Vanity Fair cover. Last week pop star Miley Cyrus revealed her fluid gender identity in an interview with Paper Magazine.

The conversation is rippling across the politics and policy worlds, too. An Ontario judge has ruled that a transgender child whose parents were fighting over her identity should be allowed to discover that identity for herself (she identifies as female).

On June 1, the Alberta Bill of Rights was amended to include the rights of Albertans to determine their own gender identity and express it as they please.

As many as one in 100 people have gender identities that are different from their biological sex at birth.

Many biological causes of transgender identity have been suggested, but none have been proven definitively. It's a highly complicated interplay of genes and environment, and many aspects are still unknown.

Scientists do know gender identity is deeply ingrained early in life, likely before birth, says Saewyc.

As we find out more and grapple with the rights, social norms and expectations around the many variations of gender identity, Canadians need to accept and embrace that variations — much like variations in sexual orientation — are natural, normal and can't be changed.

Many biological causes of transgender identity have been suggested, but none proven definitively. It's a highly complicated interplay of genes and environment.

"It's really important to recognize and celebrate the diversity of human gender and sex," says Saewyc. "For far too long we have, as societies across the world, discriminated and stigmatized against people who are outside the stereotypical binary."

Stephanie Orford is a Vancouver-based writer. The Science appears every other Wednesday.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
metroview

Real change, not just election reform, will to inspire youth

You know what's great?

Two of the big three political parties are promising electoral reform, in a bid to combat voter apathy.

It's already part of the NDP's election platform. Yesterday, the Liberals said they'll replace our first-past-the-post system with a process more in line with the popular vote.

It's worth a try, given the Conservatives' majority is based on the support of just one-quarter of eligible voters (39 per cent of ballots cast).

But you know what would be better? A party that bothered to speak to young people.

They — we — are at the heart of the problem. Youth turnout has been nosediving since the 80s, dragging the overall rate with it. Only 38.8 per cent of people 18 to 24 voted in the last election (compared to 61.1 per cent overall). And, crucially, we're not becoming voters as we age.

This isn't a fringe issue for Canadians. Our democracy is suffering. Politicians can get what they want no matter how few of us vote. We can't say the same.

And it's not a problem of engagement. As UBC politics professor Max Cameron told me, "Young people have an enormous vocation for public service and a great interest in public affairs, but very few express that in terms of partisan politics."

That's because partisan politics ignores us.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau cares so deeply about the middle class, it's all he seems to talk about. And just yesterday NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair gave his own speech claiming dedication to the middle class. Whoever they may imagine belongs to this class, it's not young people.

Politicians flick at the youth unemployment rate and believe that — just by acknowledging it's abysmal — we trust them to fix it. We don't. Same goes for climate change. Any plans to dramatically reduce tuition fees, by chance? Or rent costs?

No, the political parties aren't all the same, but they seem more like soda brands fighting for market share than alternate visions of how to organize society, as Cameron told me. Will the next government shift us away from oil production or close the wage gap, end the war on drugs or even dramatically shrink the public service?

As much as I scorn the word disruptive, I could use some disruptive politics — say, the opportunity to elect someone other than a white man, seeing as, you know, we're not all white men.

So, thanks for the election reforms, guys. But I'll be shocked if they inspire young Canadians who don't vote and may never.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Drake, Buffy Sainte-Marie among nominees for Polaris Music Prize

Unshaven armpits all the rage

PERSONAL GROOMING

Women take on mainstream beauty standards with natural look

On social media and red carpets, from New York to China, hairy underarms are having a mainstream moment.

Women are proudly showing off their growth on Instagram and YouTube, and it's not just Miley Cyrus anymore. Jemima Kirke of Girls flashed her fair-colored au naturel look — earning some cringes — at the June 1 CFDA awards, one of the top fashion events of the year.

On Sina Weibo, a popular microblogging site in China, the women's rights activist known as Xiao Meili held an Armpit Hair Competition to protest societal pressure on women to shave under there.

Her effort earned more than 1.7 million hits.

Katherine Anne True. KATHERINE ANNE TRUE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"In the past two decades, there have been a lot of commercials and advertising for hair removal cream and laser removal of hair that have talked about women needing to shave their underarm hair," said the 25-year-old Xiao, whose real name is Xiao Yue.

"My mother's generation didn't care about that, but now it has become a headache for women in the summer as they have to consider whether to shave that area or not," she said.

Love it or hate it, not shaving under the arms has morphed into a call to action for other women as well who are looking to be free of the constraint or choose for themselves without ridicule.

Mom Katherine Anne True, a registered nurse in Raynham, Mass., recently showed off her underarm growth on Instagram.

"I started it a few months ago before I knew it was a trend," said True, 30.

At first, it was just for fun. Then the extra hair was met by cringes from her five-year-old daughter and nine-year-old niece.

"When the girls told me I '(had) to shave those' and were grossed out it was kind of startling that these gender stereotypes were already so ingrained at these ages," True said. "I do it, or rather don't do it, for me but also as a reminder to my daughter that it's up to the individual what we decide to do with our bodies."

Some celebrities have been sporting armpit hair forever. Julia Roberts sported the grown-out look in 1999 at the London premiere of Notting Hill.

Angelique Serrano, beauty director for InStyle magazine, said there's clearly no one right way to approach the pits, on feminist, beauty or hygiene grounds. The magazine offered a tutorial on its website late last year on how to achieve neon Rainbow Brite tints with bleach and Manic Panic dye after the hashtag #dyedpits popped up on Twitter and Instagram.

"With the help of social media, the conversation is reaching a new level," she said. "People are sharing their personal choices in a public way."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BODY HAIR CHOICES

Expression of identity is the key

Maria Del Russo, a beauty editor for the millennial-focused fashion, style and beauty site Refinery29, said expression of identity is key in the mix. If there's any statement to be made, she said, it's this: "What one woman decides to do with her body hair is her business, and hers alone. For plenty of women, it's just hair."

Jemima Kirke arrives at the 2015 CFDA Fashion Awards. EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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IMPROMPTU DUET GOES VIRAL

Sheeran surprises in Edmonton

A budding young pop singer says she got the surprise of her life from one of the world's biggest pop stars while performing at one of the world's largest shopping malls this weekend.

Sydney Bourbeau was halfway through covering Ed Sheeran's Thinking Out Loud at West Edmonton Mall on Sunday when Sheeran himself, who just happened to be at a nearby music store, hopped on stage and helped her.

The 13-year-old Grade 8 student says she initially thought Sheeran, who was wearing thick-rimmed glasses and a plaid shirt, was a stage hand coming to help her with the microphone stand.

With the crowd roaring its approval and people scrambling for their phones, Sheeran and Sydney shared the mic for a verse and a chorus.

Then, giving Bourbeau a hug, the British megastar was gone as quickly as he arrived, allowing the youngster to finish up.

Sydney was performing at the mall as part of a concert to mark the end of a fundraiser for the Humane Society hosted by her music school Resonate.

She says Sheeran's manager got in touch with her later that day to offer her tickets to Sheeran's show in Edmonton that night.

He sent her a message again during the show asking her if she wanted to come backstage, but she didn't see that one until after she was already home.

Still, she says the encounter, which has been posted by a handful of different people on social media, made her pretty popular at school on Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **"It was nuts.... Like everyone at school knew and they were all like, 'Oh my goodness, you are famous!'**
> 13-year-old mall singer Sydney Bourbeau

FROM AMERICAN IDOL TO QUEEN

Lambert's fans span generations

When it comes to spanning the generational divide among music fans, Adam Lambert may have figured it all out: write catchy, hook-laden pop and dance tracks for the kids and sell pricey concert tickets for one of the all-time classic rock bands to their parents.

Fresh off a wildly successful world tour fronting Queen, Lambert is back with his third studio album, The Original High, released Tuesday. Its mix of dance club, pop and emotional ballads couldn't be more different from the music he's been performing for the past two years.

"I have a lot of different people that listen to my music, and it's important to me to kind of bring as many people together as I can," Lambert, 33, said in a recent interview. "Now, six years into this part of my career, I think I know myself better. I think I have a stronger idea of my artistic identity and who my fans are."

"Working with Queen was definitely a balancing act of trying to honour the original recordings as much as I possibly could, while still injecting myself into them," he added. "With this project, it's my name on the project."

Lambert burst onto the scene in 2009, auditioning for American Idol with an a cappella version of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody. He made it to the finale, finishing second to Kris Allen.

"I really owe that show a huge debt of gratitude," he said. "That show put me on the map, gave me this amazing opportunity and this platform to show what I can do, connected me with all these amazing fans, and changed my whole life."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GRAMMY NOM

Lambert's first studio album, For Your Entertainment, spawned the Top 10 hit Whataya Want From Me, which also earned him a Grammy nomination.

St. Vincent tames Cara's wild ways

#STCARA

Busy model is ready to settle down with singer: Source

Emily Laurence
Metro | New York City

Cara Delevingne and Annie Clark, seen here in Cannes last month, are said to be going strong. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Model Cara Delevingne has famously dated Harry Styles and Michelle Rodriguez, but it's none other than St. Vincent singer Annie Clark who has turned the upcoming Paper Towns actress from party girl to domestic partner.

A source close to the couple allegedly tells Closer magazine that the couple are "so in love" with each other and are living together in easy domestic bliss.

"They both say they feel like they've found The One," the source says. "When Annie asked Cara to move in together, she said yes immediately. They feel real settled at the moment."

Delevingne is at a pivotal moment in her modelling and acting career.

Fresh from jointly promoting Burberry, the British model teamed up again with Kate Moss to lead Mango's fall/winter 2015 ad campaign.

Called #somethingincommon, the campaign, which will be Moss's third for the fashion brand, was shot in Toronto.

She also stars in the upcoming Paper Towns, showing off her acting chops and a decent American accent in the film based on the novel by John Green (who also penned The Fault in Our Stars).

But even Delevingne's busy schedule can't keep her apart from Clark. The source goes on to say that neither one of them hesitates to jump on a plane, even if it's just for a few hours of time together. Team #StCara for the win!

GOSSIP BRIEFS

Zoe Saldana keeps kids under wraps

New mom Zoe Saldana is going to great lengths to respect the privacy of her six-month-old twin sons. That means you won't be seeing any photos with their faces any time soon.

"I just don't want 16 years from now to get, 'You are so disrespectful. You invaded, you exposed me and I wasn't ready,'" Saldana tells E! News. "Right now they're not in the position to speak for themselves or make a decision. I don't want to make it for them."

Zoe Saldana

Anna Faris jealous of a dinosaur

Anna Faris is trying to be an understanding wife to Chris Pratt, but she just doesn't like the way a certain Jurassic World co-star has been looking at him. In the blockbuster, Pratt's character has a close bond with one velociraptor in particular named Blue, and Faris took to Twitter to voice her concerns.

"Honey, what if I'm the littlest jealous of Blue?" she wrote. "I mean, she's hot, smart and you clearly adore her. Thoughts?"

Pratt himself responded, hoping to put his wife's fears to rest. "She's a little cold-blooded for my taste," he tweeted. "But seriously, nothing happened."

Aaron Paul punks Breaking Bad fans

Breaking Bad star Aaron Paul apparently wants to use his fame and social media moxie for evil, not good. He recently teased fans in a Periscope video about a Breaking Bad spin-off chronicling the exploits of his character, Jesse Pinkman, after leaving Albuquerque. "Listen, there's some super top-secret news that I am so proud to tell all of you. It's very exciting," he offered.

Except that it was all a joke. And fans got so worked up after it that he had to tweet an apology: "Sorry for the joke, everybody." Not cool, Pinkman. Not cool.

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WORD OF MOUTH
Theresa Albert
myfriendinfood.com

In a recent survey about gifts for Father's Day, one third of dads polled said they don't want a gift on June 21 — they just want to spend quality time with the family.

Cooking together is one way to do it, so here are the top three foods he needs to satisfy that hormone called testosterone.

These foods contain three key nutrients: zinc, protein and vitamin D to help build the critical hormone. The other items that the research points to for healthy T are a reduction of unhealthy weight and excess sugar as well as an increase in muscle-building activity. But don't pester him on Father's Day; just pass him these great guy foods:

Foods that are high in protein, zinc and vitamin D are sure-fire hits for dad this Father's Day. ISTOCK

Grass fed beef
High in protein and zinc and lower in the saturated fats that can interfere with hormone regulation. Let him build the fire (ok, light the BBQ) and grill it like the hunter he is at heart.

Shrimp
Containing vitamin D and omega 3 fats, these babies go on the grill right next to the beef and scream man food. Be sure you check the source of such shrimp, though. Marine Stewardship Council Certified (look for the MSC blue logo) is critical.

Pumpkin seeds
Loaded with Zinc and Magnesium to support his muscles that support his manliness, these green pepitas are easy to sneak in. Use them in place of croutons in your Caesar Salad and call it a good Father's Day.

Theresa is a food and health expert and nutritionist who loves to spread the word on food.

SUMMER DRINKS

A Brit's taste of summer

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy

England's classic aperitifs are making a comeback as home bartenders look for simple-to-make cocktails to help celebrate the coming of the summer season.

You can't get more old-school than Pimm's No. 1 Cup ($22.59 – $27.98). Invented by James Pimm in 1823, it's a gin-based spirit made with a secret blend of herbs, fruit juices and liqueurs.

The Brits like it stirred with sparkling lemonade (often replaced with ginger ale in North America) over ice and is typically garnished with a wedge of orange and a sprig of mint.

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Your essential daily news

BMW is pressing ahead with its fuel-cell car, which could go on sale by 2020

Features pack Lexus NX 300h

ROAD TESTED

JIL McINTOSH/FOR METRO

REVIEW

Compact SUV could be more fun to drive, though

Jil McIntosh
For Metro

Toyota was the first automaker to launch a hybrid, and over the years, it has used that technology in a number of Toyota and Lexus vehicles. Many of them are very good, but it falls a little short in the Lexus NX 300h, its all-new compact SUV.

You can get the NX with a conventional turbocharged 2.0-litre engine, while the 300h uses a 2.5-litre four-cylinder with electric motor and storage battery. The system automatically runs on gasoline, electricity, or a combination of the two, depending on what's needed. The system recharges the battery itself, and you don't plug it in.

The regular NX 200t starts at $41,450 and has five trim levels, but the 300h hybrid comes in a single, fully loaded, all-wheel-drive model for $59,450.

The styling is edgy, and Lexus says it's the company's first hybrid with a kick-down function when you want a burst of acceleration. But while I went in expecting at least some sporty performance because of that, I was disappointed. The steering is mushy, the brakes are grabby, and the engine drones. The only real payoff was an average of 6.6 L/100 kilometres in combined driving, which turned out to be better than the published numbers, and on regular-grade fuel.

The interior is all quality materials and stitched leather, but I had some issues here, as well. You use a touchscreen on the centre console to operate the infotainment system, but it's too sensitive and I had trouble hitting the icons, especially on uneven roads. There's a storage cover behind the wrist support that's topped with a removable cover. Flip it over, and it's a mirror. It's a nice idea in theory, I suppose, but I'm just seeing something that's easily broken or lost.

> **Steering is mushy, the brakes are grabby**

The NX 300h does include a lot of features, such as adaptive cruise control, lane departure alert, power tilt and telescopic wheel, power-folding rear seats, ventilated front seats, head-up display, and wireless phone charging. But for the money, I expected something that would be a lot more fun to drive. The company may be known for hybrids, but even the leaders don't always get it right.

THE CHECKLIST | 2015 LEXUS NX 300H

THE BASICS

Type. Four-door, five-passenger compact hybrid SUV.
Engine (hp). 2.5-litre I4 with hybrid system (154 gas only, 194 gas/electric).
Transmission. Continuously variable (CVT).
Price. $59,450 (as tested), plus destination.

JIL McINTOSH/FOR METRO

COOL FEATURES

- Heated and ventilated front seats.
- Power-folding rear seats.
- Heated steering wheel.
- Head-up display.
- Touchpad infotainment control.
- Adaptive cruise control.
- Power liftgate.

POINTS

- The NX 300h slots under the company's larger and deservedly popular RX hybrid. Lexus makes a total of six different hybrid cars and SUVs.
- The non-hybrid NX 200t starts at $41,450 and goes to $53,550.

MARKET POSITION

- The compact hybrid SUV segment is a very slim one, and the NX 300h really has only Infiniti as a competitor. There aren't many hybrid SUVs overall, but most are larger and pricier than the NX.

THE COMPETITION

Infiniti QX60 Hybrid
Base price: $54,900

Lexus RX 450h
Base price: $63,250

Porsche Cayenne S E-Hybrid
Base price: $87,700

STUDY

Bright light could ease that night drive

When you drive into the night, turn on a bright light to improve your performance, suggests a new study that says doing this could improve cognition and alertness.

This extends to night-shift workers whose work environment is dimly lit, for bright light suppresses the release of the natural sleep hormone melatonin, according to the researchers.

While this does not improve subjective alertness or co-ordination, it staves off the effects of sleep deprivation and, as the hours pass, bright light works better than dim light at enhancing your alertness.

In the study, the researchers screened would-be participants to find out their circadian rhythm chronotype, a scientific expression for whether you like to go to bed early and wake up early or if you prefer the opposite.

The researchers also screened them for sleep disorders and propensity for motion sickness because a driving simulator was the vehicle for the experiment.

They accepted 19 mostly male participants and structured the experiment in a crossover design involving repeated measures. Conditions for testing included having not experienced sleep deprivation within a week of driving the simulated circuit.

Participants were asked to stay awake until they exhibited sleep deprivation and 45 minutes later the research team exposed them to either dim light or bright light.

Next, they were asked to drive in the simulator for 45 minutes, divided into two circuits of at least 22 minutes each.

Being sleep deprived, they experienced telltale consequences that could have led to accidents in a real-life driving situation, and the incidents worsened as the task continued.

23

Average age of participants in the effect of bright light on sleep deprivation study. AFP

Bright light did not make much of a difference when compared to dim light until after the first 22-minute circuit; however, it made a significant, positive difference in the next, reducing would-be-accidents, according to the study.

"We were most surprised to find that significant differences between the bright-light condition and the dim-light condition occurred in the second lap of the simulated driving task rather than immediately following the bright light exposure," said lead author Denise Weisgerber, a doctoral candidate at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C.

Weisgerber said the experience of driving in a simulator might have aroused participants, thereby masking the effects of bright light during the first circuit. AFP

Aston Martin taps emerging markets

CONCEPT CARS

DBX blends luxury, height

Luxury sportscar maker Aston Martin is combining the body of a grand touring automobile with the taller ride height and all wheel-drive system of an off-roader with its DBX concept car (right). The car's design addresses buyers in emerging markets, such as China and Russia, where poor road conditions make living with a low-slung sports car more of an ordeal than a pleasurable experience.

THE GREEN ANGLE

Metro's weekly picks for the latest in environmental news

TEXT AND IMAGES BY WHEELBASE MEDIA

E-CARS

3D printer helps make prototype

StreetScooter has unveiled its largely 3D-printed C16 electric prototype (right). Printed parts of the car include its front and back panels, door panels, bumpers, side skirts, wheel arches, lamp covers and some small interior parts. Though many parts of the production C16 will be built using more conventional methods, 3D printing allowed the prototype to be built inexpensively, and within one year.

IN BRIEF

Chargemaster reaches 1-million milestone

• Electric-vehicle recharger developer Chargemaster has recorded 1 million vehicle charges using its British network of charging points, providing about 9.5 million kilowatt hours of electricity since September 2012. The provider of EV charging infrastructure recently installed its 10,000th public and commercial charging point.

Plastic helps make engine cylinder blocks

• Industrial manufacturer Fraunhofer is developing ways to build engine cylinder blocks composed partly of plastic. The company has created a one-cylinder experimental engine using fibre-reinforced plastic that weighs about 20 per cent less than the equivalent aluminum component, "and costs the same."

ENERGY

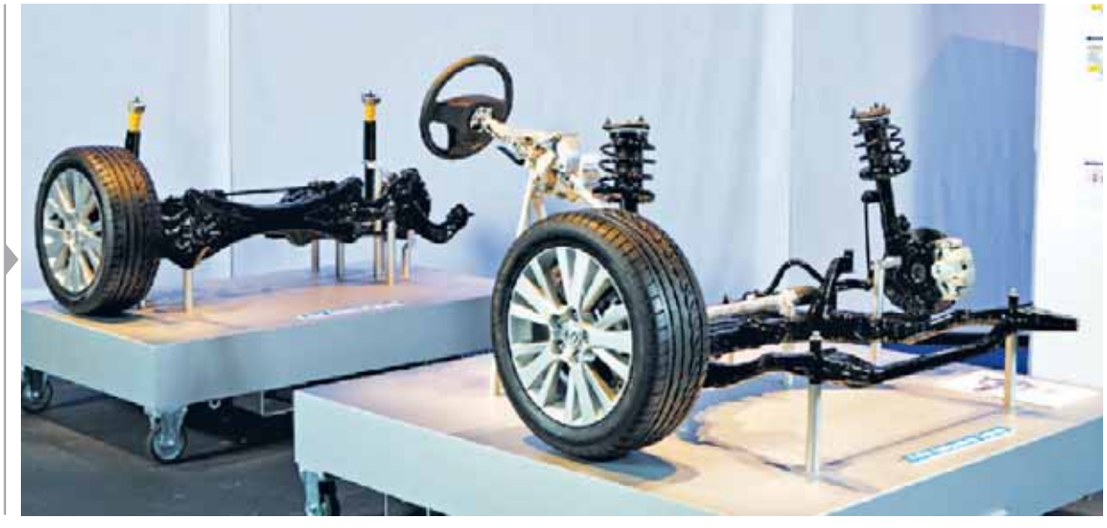
Fossil fuel use to stop: Musk

Tesla founder and CEO Elon Musk said he thinks the time will come when energy collection and storage for home, business and industrial use replaces the burning of fossil fuels. The process will take "a long time," though, and how it tracks between now and then "is difficult to predict." New battery technology to power electric cars, such as the Chevrolet Volt battery (left), could also mean new ways to power homes without fossil fuels. Musk also acknowledged energy storage might become "a better market than automotive," but that, too, will take time to determine. "It would be good to get a couple of quarters of experience" with storage-pack demand and production. After that time, "our degree of uncertainty will diminish significantly — it's super-speculative at this point."

PARTNERSHIP

Mazda, Toyota to boost tech

Improving existing environmental and safety technologies and developing new ones are the goals of a new joint collaboration between Mazda and Toyota. Announcing the agreement, Toyota president Akio Toyoda paid tribute to Mazda's SkyActiv lightweight-vehicle technologies and efficient designs (right), saying Mazda has proven "it always thinks of what is coming next," while staying true to its car-making roots. Mazda president Masamichi Kogai professed "tremendous respect" for Toyota's pursuit of ever-better cars through innovation.



RECYCLING

Used battery packs power Yellowstone buffalo ranch

Twenty-eight used Toyota Camry Hybrid battery packs recovered from Toyota dealers are now storing energy generated from solar panels at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch field campus within Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Noting that battery energy storage capacity diminishes over time — to the point where packs are no longer suitable for use in cars — they often still have enough usable capacity for other uses, reported the Green Car Reports Web site.

Check out some of the reasons why Nissan is

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SR AT model shown[▲]

1.8 SL model shown[▲]

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3.5 SL model shown[▲]

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•Equivalent lease payments of $36 on the 2015 Sentra must be made on a monthly basis and cannot be made weekly. Weekly lease payments are for informational purposes only. Offers available from June 2, 2015 to June 30, 2015. [1]My Choice Bonus Cash is applicable to customers who purchase, lease or finance a model year 2015 Micra® (excluding S trim)/Versa Note/Sentra/Altima Sedan/Juke®/Rogue/Pathfinder. The $500/$700/$1,000/$1,000/$750/$1,000/$1,500 My Choice Bonus Cash consists of $350/$500/$750/$750/$500/$700/$1,200 NCI cash and $150/$200/$250/$250/$250/$300/$300 dealer participation which will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. [2]"2 monthly Payments on Us" is available to customers who lease or finance any new model year 2015 Micra® (excluding S trim)/Versa Note/Sentra/Altima Sedan/Juke®/Rogue/Pathfinder through Nissan Canada Inc. and Nissan Canada Financial Services Inc. (collectively, "NCF") and refers to the first two (2) monthly lease payments or first two (2) monthly finance payments. A customer's first two monthly payments (inclusive all taxes) will be waived, up to a maximum of $225/$250/$375/$400/$375/$400/$600 per month tax inclusive. After two months, the customer will be required to make all remaining regularly scheduled payments over the remaining term of the contract. Customers must be approved to lease or finance through NCF. Cash purchase buyers or buyers who finance outside of Nissan Finance are also not eligible for this choice. [3]No charge extended warranty is valid for up to 60 months or 100,000 km (whichever occurs first) from the warranty start date and zero (0) kilometers. Some conditions/limitations apply. The no charge extended warranty is the Nissan Added Security Plan ("ASP") and is administered by Nissan Canada Extended Services Inc. ("NCESI"). In all provinces NCESI is the obligor. This offer includes the Gold level of coverage. Retail value of ASP is based on MSRP $1,200/$1,400/$1,500/$1,500/$1,700/$1,700/$2,000 for a new 2015 Micra®(excluding S trim)/Versa Note/Sentra/Altima Sedan/Juke®/Rogue/Pathfinder. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ≠Representative monthly lease offer based on any new 2015 Sentra 1.8 S M6 (C4LG55 AA00). 0%/0% lease APR for a 60 month term equals monthly payments of $158 with $0 down payment, and $0 security deposit. First monthly payment, down payment and $0 security deposit are due at lease inception. Prices and payments include freight and fees. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km/year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $9,336. $1,000 My Choice Bonus Cash included in advertised offer. Conditions apply. [†]Representative finance offer based on any new 2015 Altima 3.5 SL CVT (T4SG15 NV00). 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Conditions apply. ▲Models shown $18,435/$26,099/$35,977 Selling price for a new 2015 Micra® 1.6 SR 4 AT (S5SG75 AE00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 SL (C4TG15 AA00)/2015 Altima 3.5 SL CVT (T4SG15 NV00). *[1][2]•Freight and PDE charges ($1,567/$1,567/$1,695) air-conditioning levy ($100) where applicable, applicable fees (all which may vary by region), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes are extra. Lease offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. [††]The Nissan Loyalty Offer ("Offer") is available only to eligible customers who (as of Feb, 1, 2015) lease/leased, finance/financed or own/owned a 2009 or newer Nissan brand vehicle (an "Existing Vehicle"). Eligibility for the Offer will be determined by Nissan Canada Inc. ("NCI") in its sole discretion. Proof of current or previous ownership/lease/finance contract will be required. Offer is not transferrable or assignable, except to a co-owner/co-lessee of the Existing Vehicle who resides within the same household as the intended recipient of the Offer. If the eligible customer elects to lease or finance a new and previously unregistered Nissan brand vehicle (excluding NV, Fleet and daily rentals) (an "Eligible New Vehicle") through NCI and Nissan Canada Financial Services Inc. 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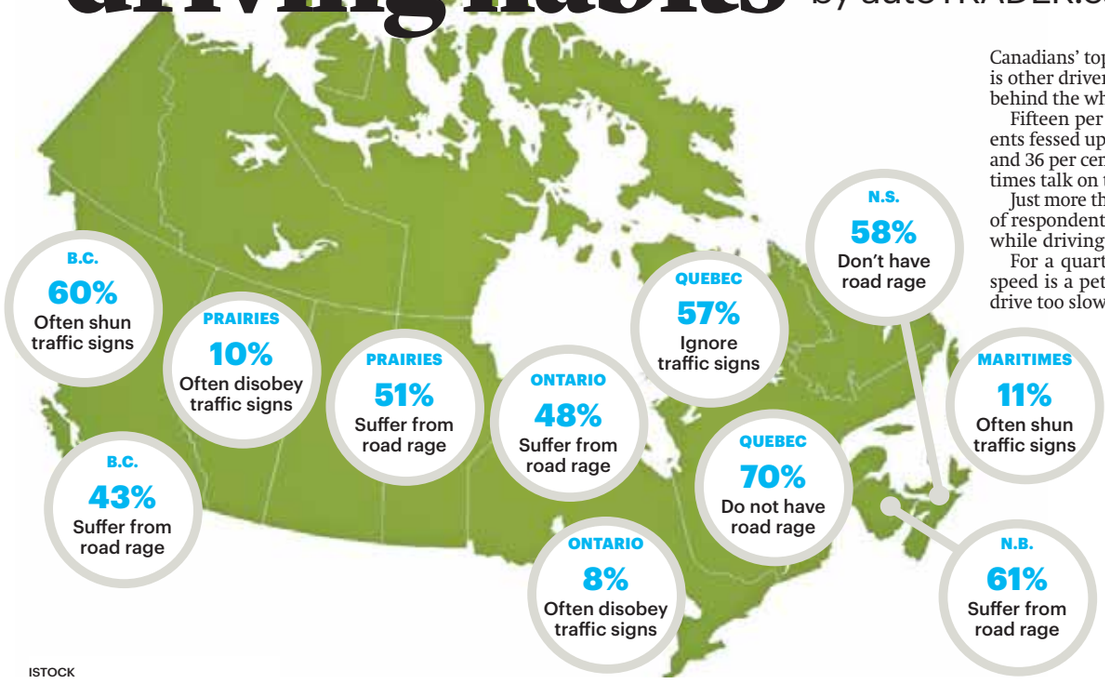
Offer valid on Eligible New Vehicles purchased/leased/financed and delivered between June 2 – June 30, 2015. For more information see IIHS.org. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. Offers subject to change, continuation or cancellation without notice. Offers have no cash alternative value. See your participating Nissan retailer for complete details. ©2015 Nissan Canada Inc. Nissan Financial Services Inc. is a division of Nissan Canada Inc.

Canadian driving habits

From drivers who talk or text behind the wheel to road rage (New Brunswick, we're looking at you), Canadian drivers have a few pet peeves, a survey of 1,500 Canadians commissioned by autoTRADER.ca suggests. METRO CANADA



ISTOCK

Canadians' top pet peeve while driving is other drivers who talk or text while behind the wheel, the survey revealed.

Fifteen per cent of survey respondents fessed up to texting while driving and 36 per cent said they at least sometimes talk on the phone while driving.

Just more than a quarter (27 per cent) of respondents who talk on the phone while driving use a handheld device.

For a quarter of Canadian drivers, speed is a pet peeve, with those who drive too slowly bothering 19 per cent of survey respondents. Drivers who drive too fast irritate seven per cent, but of those, 10 per cent admitted to being heavy on the gas pedal themselves.

A pet peeve with 20 per cent of Canadian drivers are drivers who tailgate, but only three per cent choose to tailgate another driver if he or she cuts in front of him or her.

When changing lanes or rounding a corner, drivers who fail to use their turn signals rile 18 per cent of Canadian drivers.

DISTRACTED DRIVING PENALTIES

Fines and demerit points across Canada
British Columbia: $167 fine, 3 points
Alberta: $172 fine, 0 points
Saskatchewan: $280 fine, 4 points
Manitoba: $200 fine, 2 points
Ontario: $300-$1,000 fine, 3 points
Quebec: $115-$145, 4 points
Newfoundland and Labrador: $100-$400, 4 points
Prince Edward Island.: $250-$400, 3 points
Nova Scotia: $233.95-$578.95, 4 points
New Brunswick: $172.50, 3 points
Yukon: $250, 3 points
N.W.T.: $322, 3 points
Nunavut: No present law

CANADA AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION

Porsche science on show at Le Mans

EVENT

Sports car race ignites excitement, fascination

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz

As science experiments go, the 24 Hours of Le Mans beats the heck out of making a *papier mâché* volcano erupt by combining baking soda, vinegar and dishwashing soap.

The world's most storied sports car race is much better at developing future technologies, and much more enjoyable from a spectator standpoint.

The 2015 edition of the race was run last weekend near Le Mans, France, and the science on display was particularly awesome and intriguing, as it was only the second year for regulations stipulating that race cars in the top category of LMP1 utilize at least one hybrid system, and are also limited in the amount of energy they may use in each lap.

This focus on energy efficiency brought Porsche back to fight in that top category and it did "real good" in 2015; the three-car factory team of 919 hybrid race cars finished first, second and fifth. It was the first outright win for Porsche since 1998, and stopped Audi's consecutive winning streak at five.

Let's take a quick look at Porsche's novel — and winning — hybrid technology, some of which is already on Porsche's production vehicles, and some of which will come on-stream later ...

• Porsche says the 919's 500-hp 2-litre turbocharged V-4 engine is a trailblazer in terms of fuel injection and internal friction.

• Similar to the road-going 918 Spyder, the 919 employs a generator at the front axle to convert kinetic energy into electricity during braking. The energy is stored in a very high tech lithium-ion battery, and released to an electric motor driving the front axle, in effect making the 919 an AWD vehicle under acceleration. The electrical energy is equivalent to 400 extra horsepower.

• The 919 also uses a second recovery system. A turbine generator unit in the exhaust system works in parallel with the turbocharger, to convert energy from the exhaust-gas stream into electricity. So the 919 recovers energy not only when braking, but also when accelerating.

• Audi and Nissan use flywheel devices, and Toyota uses an electrochemical supercapacitor device, to store the electricity generated by their respective race-car energy recovery systems. Those two systems are generally better at absorbing and releasing electricity quickly, and are lighter, but Porsche felt its new-design lithium-ion battery, which features individually cooled cells, could store more electricity, and so was better suited for the demands of Le Mans, and for future hybrid sports cars.

• Next year the science experiments will continue, and we'll have a bit of Canadian technology to cheer on. Ford announced it would be going endurance racing next year with its all-new Ford GT supercar in the LM GTE category.

Like the production Ford GT, the race GT will have its carbon-fibre chassis built at Multimatic Motorsports, in Markham, Ont., and will showcase the aerodynamic and lightweight possibilities of this new vehicle material.

Science that's fast, fun and loud? Now that's good science.

The Ford GT supercar. CONTRIBUTED

The Porsche 919 Hybrid zips around at Le Mans. CONTRIBUTED

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Avalon looks like a solid buy

USED VEHICLE

Electronic issues may dog 2004-2012 models

The Toyota Avalon takes a place above the Camry in the automaker's product lineup as a big, sophisticated luxury cruiser with a relatively simple goal: delivering an affordable taste of the motoring high life to its owners.

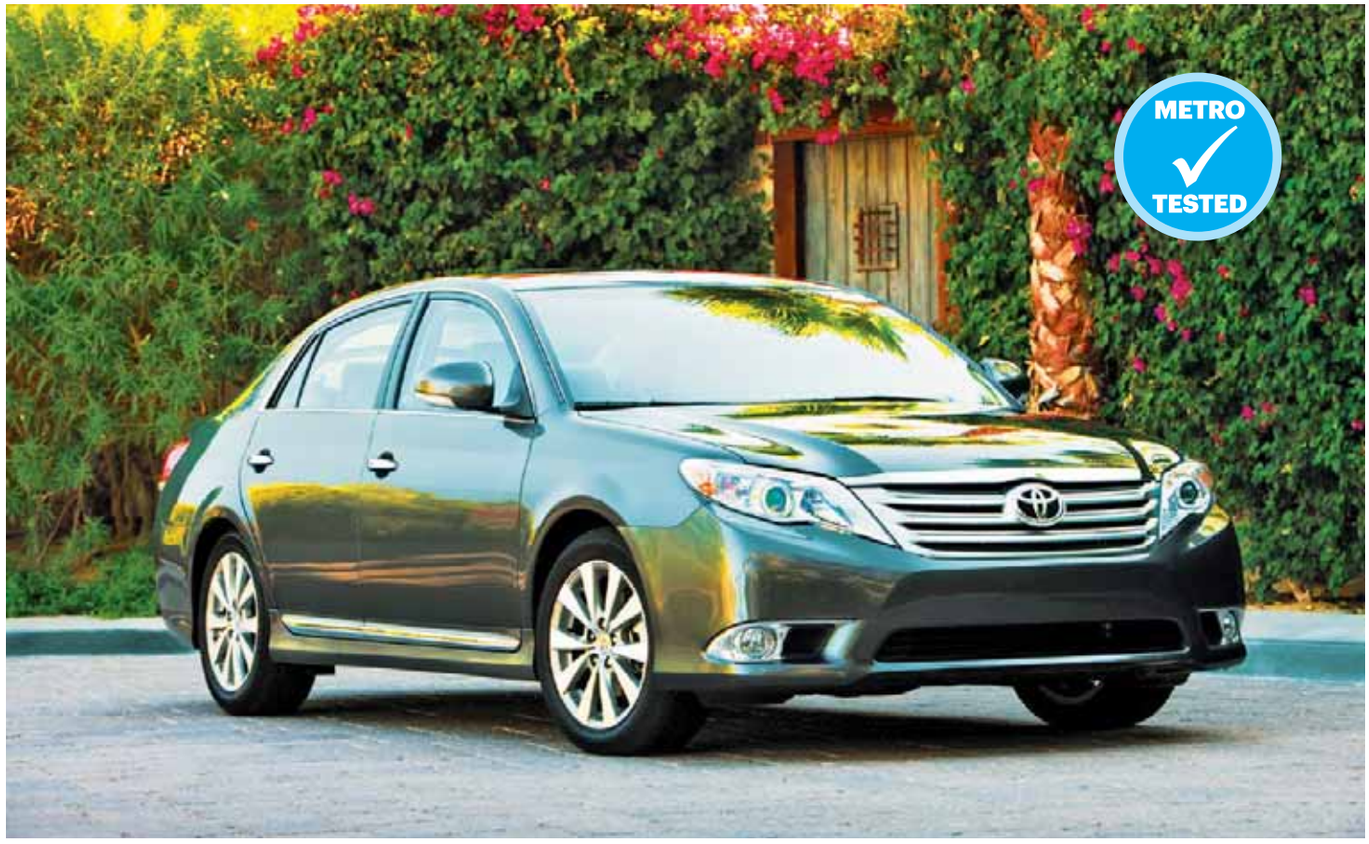
Avalon seems, largely, to have impressed its owners with reliable and trouble-free operation, though a few checks of any used unit you're contemplating should be considered mandatory.

Some owners reported frustrating and hard-to-track issues with some of Avalon's interior electronics. Extra attention is advised for the navigation system, climate controls, all cluster lights and the audio system.

Pair your Bluetooth phone, set a navigation destination, try all of the steering-wheel mounted controls and fiddle with the climate system for a few minutes, to be safe.

Shoppers of 2004 to 2012 models should also pay attention to Avalon's front end, noting any pulling or vibrating through the steering wheel that could indicate an alignment issue. Note any abnormal tire wear that's heavier on the inside or outside of the treads, which could indicate an alignment problem, too.

Listen for popping or clunking noises from the front and rear of the vehicle as you travel over rough roads at a variety of speeds. Unwelcome sounds could indicate a worn-out or damaged suspension component that will require some attention. JUSTIN PRITCHARD



Features

In the used marketplace, the Avalon will offer up hardware such as a CD changer, JBL audio system, self-dimming rear-view mirror, a sunroof, heated leather seats, in-cabin air filtration, navigation, Bluetooth and automatic climate control. Expect plenty of room to cruise in comfort with four or five adults.

Engines

All models received a 3.5-litre V6, making between 268 and 280 depending on the year. A five or six-speed automatic transmission was standard.

What owners like

Owners on the internet tend to rave about the roominess, comfort, luxury and quality imparted by the Avalon driving experience. The up-level audio system is said to deliver a noteworthy listening experience, too.

What owners dislike

Numerous complaints surfaced in online Avalon owner circles about the navigation system, occasional clumsy or harsh gear shifting, and bland cabin and body styling.

The verdict

Most Avalon owners have enjoyed largely trouble-free operation and plenty of confident kilometres from their machines. If the used unit you're considering doesn't exhibit any potential issues upon inspection by a trained mechanic, purchase confidently and expect a laid-back driving experience well suited to long-haul travels.

IN BRIEF

How much for that bike? Honda has officially unveiled the RC213V-S bike, which is literally a road-legal version of the RC213V — that's the bike that won the 2013 and 2014 MotoGP World Championships. However, surprise surrounding the new bike is due to the asking price — about $260,000 CDN. That price includes an optional racing kit for improving pretty much everything, but is only for on-track use. AFP

PARTNERSHIP

Daimler, Bosh tackle self-parking car service

Mercedes-Benz parent company Daimler is set to begin working in partnership with Bosch on the development of a new smartphone app-controlled system that would enable a car to drop off its driver and passengers then autonomously locate and manoeuvre into an available parking bay.

The system, which will require cameras and sensors to be installed in car parks, will initially be integrated into car2go's vehicle fleet.

Car2go is Daimler's car-sharing service and one that relies heavily on smartphone apps and connectivity as a means of allowing customers to book and pay for car use — making it the perfect test environment.

"Our customers are always the centre of attention and all of our actions are oriented towards them. In future the car will even go to them," explains Prof. Dr. Thomas Weber, member of the board, Daimler AG, responsible for group research and Mercedes-Benz cars development.

"In collaboration with our partner Bosch and our mobility service car2go, we are developing and testing an infrastructure-based solution for a fully automated valet parking service," Weber says.

Technology involved

Existing park assist, intelligent cruise control and autonomous breaking technologies available on a host of premium sedans, the Mercedes-Benz S Class included, are sufficient when working in unison for a car to be able to manoeuvre itself into a garage, a road-side space or into a parking bay in an outdoor parking lot without an accident.

However, identifying an empty space within an indoor, multi-storey parking lot, navigating to it and driving into it isn't possible unless the parking structure itself is as connected as the cars within it. This is where Bosch comes in.

When the partnership is officially ratified on July 8, Bosch will be charged with developing the intelligent infrastructure components, such as cameras and parking bay sensors, needed so cars can see the layout of a car park as clearly as a human driver.

"Fully automated parking will be ready for mass-production before fully automated driving," says Dr. Dirk Hoheisel, member of the board of management, Bosch.

"Low driving speeds and the information from the car park infrastructure enable a fast implementation," says Hoheisel. AFP

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Starting From Price for 2015 Ram 1500 Sport with Performance Hood shown: $39,765.§

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Starting From Price for 2015 Dodge Journey Crossroad shown: $31,785.§

2015 DODGE JOURNEY CANADA VALUE PACKAGE

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Jeep RAM

Wise customers read the fine print: ◊, †, *, », ‡, ≈, §

The Trade In Trade Up Summer Clearance Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected in-stock new and unused models purchased/leased from participating retailers on or after June 2, 2015. Offers subject to change and may be extended or changed without notice. All pricing includes freight ($1,695), air-conditioning charge (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Financing and lease offers available to qualified customers on approved credit. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ◊$10,000 in Total Discounts is available on new 2015 Ram 1500 models (excluding Reg Cab) and consists of $8,500 in Consumer Cash Discounts and $1,500 in Ram Truck Loyalty/Conquest Bonus Cash. See your retailer for complete details. †0% purchase financing for up to 60 months available on select new 2015 models to qualified customers on approved credit through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Examples: 2015 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (25A+AGR)/2015 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package/2015 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package with a Purchase Price of $27,995/$19,995/$19,995 with a $0 down payment, financed at 0% for 60/48/36 months equals 130/104/78 bi-weekly payments of $215/$192/$256 with a cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $27,995/$19,995/$19,995. *Consumer Cash Discounts are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. »$1,500 Ram Truck Loyalty/Conquest/Skilled Trades Bonus Cash is available on the retail purchase/lease of 2015 Ram 1500 (excludes Regular Cab), 2014/2015 Ram 2500/3500, 2014/2015 Ram Cab & Chassis trucks, or 2015 Ram Cargo Van and is deducted from the negotiated price after taxes. Eligible customers include: 1. Current owners/lessees of a Dodge or Ram Pickup Truck or Large Van or any other manufacturer's Pickup Truck or Large Van. The vehicle must have been owned/leased by the eligible customer and registered in their name on or before June 1, 2015. Proof of ownership/lease agreement will be required. 2. Customers who are skilled tradesmen or are acquiring a skilled trade. This includes Licensed Tradesmen, Certified Journeymen or customers who have completed an Apprenticeship Certification. A copy of the Trade Licence/Certification required. 3. Customers who are Baeumler Approved service providers. Proof of membership is required. Limit one $1,500 bonus cash offer per eligible truck transaction. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. ‡3.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on new select models through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Examples: 2015 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (25A+AGR)/2015 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package/2015 Chrysler 200 LX/2015 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package with a Purchase Price of $27,995/$19,995/$19,995/$19,995, with a $998/$0/$0/$0 down payment, financed at 3.49% for 96 months equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $149/$110/$110/$110 with a cost of borrowing of $3,983/$2,950/$2,950/$2,950 and a total obligation of $31,977.91/$22,944.90/$22,944.90/$22,944.90. ≈Non-prime financing available on approved credit. 4.99% financing available on 2015 Ram 1500 Quad 4x4 SXT/2015 Chrysler 200 LX. 6.99% financing available on select 2015 models. Financing examples: 2015 Chrysler 200 LX/2015 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package with a Purchase Price of $19,995/$19,995 financed at 4.99%/6.99% over 84 months, equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $130/$139 for a total finance obligation of $23,731.14/$25,341.15. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. §Starting From Prices for vehicles shown include Consumer Cash Discounts and do not include upgrades (e.g., paint). Upgrades available for additional cost. ±Based on 2014 *Ward's* Lower Middle Sedan segmentation. Excludes other vehicles designed and manufactured by FCA US LLC. ^Based on IHS Automotive: Polk Canadian Vehicles in Operation data available as of July, 2014 for Crossover Segments as defined by FCA Canada Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of FCA US LLC used under license by FCA Canada Inc. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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Special Delivery: F-Type R

What test car is Garry bringing us this week? We literally have no clue what he's bringing us until it lands in our driveway, but who are we to doubt Garry Sowerby, who has a bazillion Guinness records for around-the-world driving? That's a bazillion more than we have, after all. Come along for the ride as we deliver real-life, no-glam reviews.

JEFF MELNYCHUK WHEELBASE MEDIA

Rather than Garry bringing his Special Delivery vehicle of the week to me, I'm being delivered to the car in Windsor, Ont.

Garry thinks I put the "special" in special delivery. Few would disagree with him, including Jason Stein, publisher of Automotive News, which is located across the water from Windsor in Detroit, Mich. Jason lives in Windsor and commutes to work in the U.S. of A.

I happen to be in town for our semi-regular get-together and the call comes into the posh home-office bunker I've set up in the guest room over the garage at his house.

Jason from work in Detroit: "OK, I can bring home a Camaro something or a Jaguar F-Type something. Which do you want?"

Me: "Jag something. And maybe some McNuggets. Thanks."

Lower ride height on the Jaguar F-Type R, please. WHEELBASE MEDIA PHOTOS

The gear shift.

Noise, noise, noise!

A couple of hours later, around 6 p.m., there's a hellish racket in the driveway, like muffled fireworks. Jason revs up the engine. "BLLABABAALAAAAaaaaablablaaaa." It sounds like a hollow washing machine full of bowling balls.

The Jaguar F-Type "something" turns out to be the top-of-the-line 550-horsepower F-Type R. There are a couple of less-powerful versions, but who really cares about those when there's a supercharged 5.0-litre V8 right outside that's ready for a good beating.

The F-Type caused quite a stir when it went into production for the 2013 model year, mostly over at Jaguar. The F-Type made the higher-priced XK coupe/convertible look like an 8-track player, almost overnight. No one cried when Jag promptly quit the XK, mostly because the F-Type was so mesmerizing. And ... maybe because no one cared about all that much about the XK, anyway.

Check out those handles.

The view from the back.

Is that you making all that racket?

Up close and personal with the wheel.

Driving the Jag

The F-Type feels ridiculously quick, in testing the grip of the all-wheel-drive system. That's right, all-wheel-drive. The pedal is touchy. The power is all down low, though, and it wanes just a bit as the revs climb. A just-OK zero-to-100 km/h time of 4.1 seconds proves this. The standard eight-speed transmission is quick to react to paddle shifts. I'm not missing a manual trans one bit.

Still, the sensation is that the F-Type is a supercar and perhaps it is for a base price of $117,500 (the base 340-horsepower F-Type S starts at $77,500) and for its flush-mount door handles that pop out when you want to climb in, and for the all-wheel-drive, and for the optional carbon-ceramic brakes. And, of course, for the impossibly tiny space under the rear hatch. You can always tell a supercar if the trunk space is secondary to absolutely everything else. Based on that, the F-Type R is a SUPERCAR.

Convertible conundrum

It's worse for the convertible models, because there's no hatch and the top mechanism has to be stored below deck.

I'm a coupe man, so this particular F-Type would be my ride, anyway. It's faster and much quicker than it needs to be, it's prettier than a prom date and it's louder and more offensive than a bar fight.

Yup, it's perfect.

LET'S TALK

WOW: Does everything that's impractical, correctly; if someone steals this car, you can track it by sound or seismic waves; no manual trans? Who cares.

HMM: Shifter takes getting used to. Still can't find reverse; needs a lower stance and bigger wheels; should be quicker to 100 km/h than 4.1 seconds; there's better "value" out there, but that doesn't matter, just look at it.

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Flex, Escape, and F-350 to F-550 (Chassis Cabs) models for up to 60 months, and 2015 Focus, Fiesta, Fusion, Taurus, F-250, and F-350 to F-450 (excluding Chassis Cabs) models for up to 72 months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: $25,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 36/60/72 months; monthly payment is $694.44/$416.66/$347.22, cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $25,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Lease a 2015 Focus Sedan SE/Focus Sedan Titanium/Escape SE FWD 2.5L Cargo Package (200A)/Escape Titanium FWD with a value of $21,344/$27,144/$27,104/ $33,254 (after $1,195/$1,195/$1,195/ $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in deducted, and including freight and air tax charges of $1,665/$1,665/$1,790/$1,790) at 0% APR for up to 48 months with an optional buyout of $9,067/$11,445/$11,734/$14,317; monthly payment is $215/$286/$280/$380; total lease obligation is $11,515/$14,923/ $14,835/$18,240; interest cost of leasing is $0 or 0% APR. Additional payments required for optional features, license, and insurance. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Some conditions and mileage restriction of 64,000 km for 48 months apply. Excess kilometrage charges are 12¢ per km for Focus and Escape; plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change – see your local dealer for details. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ††Until June 30, 2015, receive 0.99% APR purchase financing on new 2015 Ford Fusion SE FWD/Fusion Titanium AWD model for up to 84 months, to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: 2015 Fusion SE for $26,099/$34,999 (after $0/$1,195 down payment or equivalent trade-in deducted and including freight and air tax charges of $1,700), purchase financed at 0.99% APR for 84 months, monthly payment is $310/$405 (the sum of twelve (12) monthly payments divided by 26 periods gives payee a bi-weekly payment of $143/$187), interest cost of borrowing is $892/$1,165 or APR of 0.99% and total to be repaid is $26,026/$34,034. Down payment may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. All purchase finance offers include freight and air tax and PPSA but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Purchase a new 2015 Fusion SE FWD for $26,099. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers include freight and air tax ($1,700) but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. "See lease offer legal marked with (**) symbol for monthly payment. Lease a model with a value of $30,000 at 0% APR for up to 24/36/48 months with an optional buyout of $15,600/$13,200/$10,800 and $0 down or equivalent trade-in; monthly payment is $600.00/$466.67/$400.00; total lease obligation is $14,400.24/$16,800.12/$19,200.00; interest cost of leasing is $0 or 0% APR. Additional payments required for PPSA (RDPRM for Quebec), registration, security deposit. NSF fees (where applicable), excess wear and tear, and late fees. Some conditions and mileage restrictions apply. Excess kilometrage charges are 12¢ per km for Fiesta, Focus, C-MAX, Fusion and Escape; 16¢ per km for E-Series, Mustang, Taurus, Taurus X, Edge, Flex, Explorer, F-Series, MKS, MKX, MKZ, MKT and Transit Connect; 20¢ per km for Expedition and Navigator, plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change, see your local dealer for details. ~Until June 30, 2015, lease a new 2015 Ford Focus Sedan SE/Focus Sedan Titanium/Escape SE FWD 2.5L Cargo Package (200A)/Escape Titanium FWD for up to 48 months, and get 0% APR on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Lease a 2015 Focus Sedan SE/Focus Sedan Titanium/Escape SE FWD 2.5L Cargo Package (200A)/Escape Titanium FWD with a value of $21,344/$27,144/$27,104/ $33,254 (after $1,195/$1,195/$1,195/ $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in deducted, and including freight and air tax charges of $1,665/$1,665/$1,790/$1,790) at 0% APR for up to 48 months with an optional buyout of $9,067/$11,445/$11,734/$14,317; monthly payment is $215/$286/$280/$380; total lease obligation is $11,515/$14,923/ $14,835/$18,240; interest cost of leasing is $0 or 0% APR. Additional payments required for optional features, license, and insurance. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Some conditions and mileage restriction of 64,000 km for 48 months apply. Excess kilometrage charges are 12¢ per km for Focus and Escape; plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change – see your local dealer for details. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ‡Based on Canadian vehicle manufacturers' Association sales data for Ford and Lincoln nameplates for the last 3 months (Dec. 2014 – Feb. 2015). Eligible customers will receive $1,000 to $2,500 (Ford Fusion, Ford F-150, Ford Mustang, Ford Escape, Ford Edge, Ford Explorer, Ford Transit Connect, Ford Transit, Ford F-250 to F-550 (each a "Eligible Vehicle"). Vehicles of 2014 model year or older with at least 160,000 km on the odometer at time of recycling and that have been properly registered plates (if required for the last 3 months (Dec. 2014 – Feb. 2015). Eligible customers will receive $1,000 to $2,500 (Ford Fusion, Ford F-150, Ford Mustang, Ford Escape, Ford Edge, Ford Explorer, Ford Transit Connect, Ford Transit, Ford F-250 to F-550 (each a "Eligible Vehicle"). Vehicles of 2014 model year or older with at least 160,000 km on the odometer at time of recycling and that have been properly registered plates (if required for the last 3 months (Dec. 2014 – Feb. 2015). Eligible customers must recycle their vehicle through a Ford dealership by turning in a 2015 model year or older vehicle that is in running condition able to start and move under its own power (without missing parts) and has

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Your essential daily news

The Argos' Ricky Ray is on the six-game injured list as he recovers from shoulder surgery

Modern-day dynasty

NHL

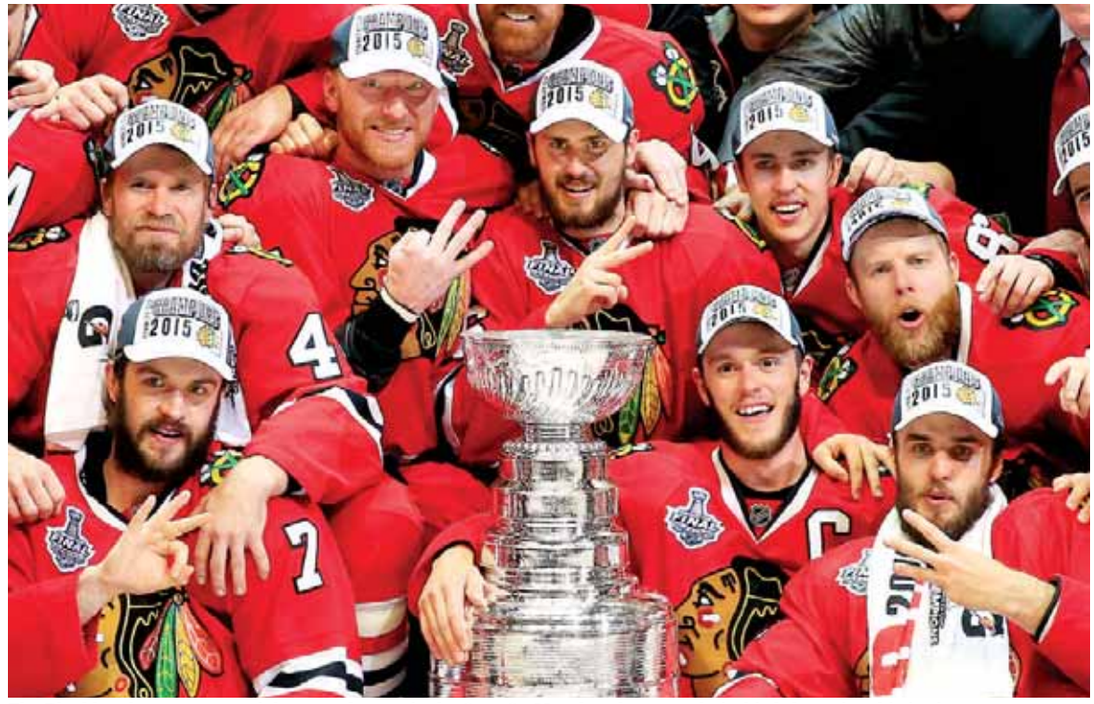
Blackhawks proving they are the model team in cap era

Embracing on the ice while celebrating their second Stanley Cup together, blossoming Chicago Blackhawks star Brandon Saad and general manager Stan Bowman already started looking forward to the next one.

"We gave a hug and I said, 'This is the first of many, we're going to win a lot together,'" Bowman said. "He gave me a big hug and said, 'Let's go.'"

The Blackhawks' core of Jonathan Toews, Patrick Kane, Patrick Sharp, Duncan Keith, Brent Seabrook and Marian Hossa is already up to three Cups in six years, an incredible feat in the NHL's salary-cap era. While the cap was designed to prevent this kind of domination, Chicago has thrived with stars who shine in the playoffs and an ever-changing mix of role players and young contributors.

"It certainly is a credit to our leadership group on the team and also my staff has done a fantastic job drafting and developing players," Bowman said Monday night on the ice at the United Center. "The only way you make it work in this system is if you can have young players that you not only draft but you develop, or you find them as free agents and you develop them."



The Blackhawks are a perennial contender to win the Cup. On Monday, they won their third championship in six years.
TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

It has worked so well that the Blackhawks are starting to hear the word "dynasty" a lot. Commissioner Gary Bettman, a proponent and supporter of league-wide parity, told the crowd and team they had a dynasty when presenting Toews with the Cup.

> **Three in six years is amazing. What more can you really ask for, and we were so close last year, too.** Patrick Kane

They're not a dynasty by the traditional definition like the 1970s Montreal Canadiens or the 1980s New York Islanders or Edmonton Oilers, but like the Detroit Red Wings in the late 1990s and early 2000s, they've won multiple titles. In the cap-era they're the NHL's team of the decade.

Mark Messier, the captain of that Oilers dynasty, said during the final that a third Cup for the Blackhawks would be "an incredible feat."

"They're definitely a team on the cusp of being called a dynasty," Messier said last week. "There is no question about it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Midfielder Lawrence making her presence felt

Canadian midfielder Ashley Lawrence, right, celebrates her goal against the Netherlands with teammate Josee Belanger on Monday in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Midfielder Ashley Lawrence has never scored a more important goal in her young career.

On the biggest stage in women's soccer, the 20-year-old recorded Canada's only goal in a 1-1 draw with the Netherlands at the FIFA Women's World Cup on Monday night. The first-half strike was enough to give Canada top spot in Group A.

"She's been lighting it up in midfield," head coach John Herdman said of Lawrence. "A little bit of pace ... and just that composure to finish that goal. And she had a few chances tonight (Monday). She certainly had the bit between her teeth."

ON THE BOARD

With her goal on Monday, Lawrence became Canada's third youngest scorer in a World Cup.

Ten minutes into Monday's contest, Lawrence — a Toronto native — pounced on a loose ball for Canada's first goal from open play of the tournament.

Right back Josee Belanger got the play going from the sidelines. Her throw-in was deflected by captain Christine Sinclair to Sophie Schmidt, whose shot was blocked by Dutch defender Mandy van den Ber. The ball bounced right to Lawrence, who side-footed the ball home for her first international goal in her 21st appearance.

"John really stressed as a midfielder just getting forward and getting in those right positions," Lawrence said after Monday's draw. "It was a great cross and the deflection came out and I just finished." THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Senators sign Lindberg to entry-level contract

The Ottawa Senators have signed forward Tobias Lindberg to a three-year entry-level contract.

The 19-year-old Stockholm native played for the Ontario Hockey League's Oshawa Generals last season, registering 78 points (32 goals, 46 assists) and a plus-33 rating in 67 regular-season games.

Tobias Lindberg
GETTY IMAGES

He added seven goals and 12 assists in 21 playoff games as the Generals won the OHL title, and had three goals and two assists in Oshawa's championship run at the MasterCard Memorial Cup.

The six-foot-two, 212-pound winger was drafted in the fourth round (102nd overall) of the 2013 NHL draft.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Japan takes perfect record into knockout stage

Defending champion Japan became the first team to win all three of its group-stage matches at the Women's World Cup on Tuesday after defeating Ecuador 1-0 at Winnipeg Stadium.

Yuki Ogimi scored in the fifth minute for Japan, which secured first place in Group C and a spot in the knockout stage of the tournament.

Ecuador finished group play with three losses, being outscored 17-1 in the process.

Cameroon will also advance from Group C after defeating Switzerland 2-1 at Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA FINALS

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Game 6 of the Finals.

World Cup crystal ball

With Canada clinching first place in Group A and a place in the next round, here's a look at one route the team could take on their way to the final in Vancouver

ROUND OF 16
BC Place, Vancouver Sunday, June 21
Who Canada would like to play: Cameroon
Who they'd like to avoid: Switzerland
Cameroon is the lowest-ranked team to reach the round of 16, but they were a formidable in Group C, beating Ecuador by six and only falling to holders Japan 2–1. The Swiss were eliminated by Cameroon on Tuesday. Canada would be favoured to comfortably beat Cameroon.
Will they move on?: Likely.

QUARTER-FINALS
BC Place, June 27
Who they'd like to play: England
Who they'd like to avoid: Norway
Norway stormed through Group B with an offensive prowess missing from the Canadian lineup, only missing out on top spot to Germany through goal difference. Canada would be better off facing the Lionesses, who have had a mediocre run and who they defeated before the World Cup. Canada will be reliant on fans to give them the home edge and propel the team to victory.
Will they move on?: It's a toss-up.

SEMI-FINALS
Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, July 1
Who they'd like to play: Brazil
Who they'd like to avoid: Japan
Holders Japan were the first team to clinch their group in the first round and, despite only managing narrow wins over Switzerland and Cameroon, neither a loss or a draw ever really looked like it was in the cards. Japan could be the first top-five ranked team Canada will face in the tournament and it will be a true test to see if the Canadians can keep up with the finest in the world. Based on the home team's performances so far, it's hard to see Canada mounting a real challenge against the Japanese. Avoiding a heavy defeat and striving for another third-place finish might be their best bet.
Will they move on?: Destined for third place.

THIRD-PLACE GAME
Commonwealth Stadium, July 4
Who they'd like to play: United States
Who they'd like to avoid: Germany
Two of the tournament's greatest forces, Germany and the United States, could usurp the finals earlier in the week when they meet up in a semi-final cracker in Montreal. It would take Abby Wambach and company a performance of a lifetime to defeat the Germans, meaning the Canada-USA rivalry of late could be reignited in the fight for third.
Likelihood of third-place finish: Good.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
BC Place, July 5
Who they'd like to play: United States
Worst-case scenario: Germany
Canadian coach John Herdman has openly spoken about his dream final, where captain Christine Sinclair hoists the World Cup in her hometown after defeating the Americans. His ideal scenario, though unlikely, is not simply ideal because of the romance factor: Canada would have much better a chance against the United States than world No. 1 Germany. But it would be a shock for Germany to be knocked out before the final and, like in the semi-finals against Japan, Canada will have to play above their grade if they want to sneak a win, no matter if the whole country's behind them.
Likelihood of hoisting the Cup: Slim.

Torstar News Service PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

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OMG: STAR WARS COMES TO CHINA, FOUR DECADES LATER

China has become one with the Force by showing the original Star Wars film at cinemas for the first time, nearly four decades after it became a global hit and cornerstone of Western popular culture.

The Shanghai International Film Festival is showing all six Star Wars films this week, including the first screenings in mainland Chinese theatres of the original trilogy, festival organizers said. There are no plans for nationwide release.

In 1977, as foreign audiences followed the adventures "a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away," China had just emerged from the chaotic Cultural Revolution and had yet to launch economic reforms that would transform the Communist-ruled country.

Tuesday was the first showing through the film festival of A New Hope — made first but ultimately the fourth film in the series — though hard-core fans were treated to a specially arranged screening of the original trilogy shown back-to-back on Sunday.

At a central cinema, the Tuesday show was nearly sold out. The Star Wars theme song played in the lobby as the young crowd entered, one man wearing a C-3PO T-shirt and a woman sporting white storm troopers on her black shirt.

U.S. studio Walt Disney hopes the screenings will prepare the Chinese audience for the seventh episode in the series, due for release later this year. AFP

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IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
No matter how far out your ideas you can find ways to make them work. It is sometimes said that everyone with a new idea is considered a crank, until the idea works. Your critics will soon be calling you a genius!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
If you take a chance today you could hit the jackpot. There are no guarantees but the planets promise if you have done your homework and planned things carefully you could easily be a winner.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
If you did not do something remarkable yesterday you will certainly do something remarkable today. Even if you are one of life's rare shy and retiring Geminis you will find ways to show the world what you can do.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If you are the kind of Cancer who hates to see injustice then now is the time to do something about it. There are so many good causes out there and all of them crying out for people with your brand of compassion.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
The speed of your actions will take everyone by surprise. If a friend is in some kind of trouble you will go out of your way to help them, then a little bit further to take care of the source of the problem too.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Many things are changing and you will have to adapt quickly if you want to stay one step ahead of your rivals. One day you will look back and give thanks that you were forced to move in a new direction.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may have good reasons for wanting to keep information from certain individuals but it's unlikely the planets will let you. Once they know what you do, your the advantage will be gone but you're still better than they are.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may find it very difficult to stay in control of your emotions today, but why would you want to? Sometimes it's good to let everything out, especially if you have been storing up negative feelings.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Something rather shocking is likely to happen today. In a few days time you will realize you should have seen it coming. Be that as it may you are flexible enough to adapt and survive. You may even thrive.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Decide what needs to be done, then get on and do it. While your rivals are wasting time arguing about this and that you will be out there in the real world making things happen.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Following on from yesterday's new moon you will be in a highly creative mood and whatever you work on over the next 24 hours will bring you a great deal of joy and success. Follow your dream wherever it takes you.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
A friend or relative will surprise everyone by what they do today and emotions are likely to be running high as a result. You though must remain calm and not let your own biases affect your judgment. It's not a matter of life or death.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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			7	8	4	9	1	
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4			5			7	6	
	1	5						

RECIPE Flank Steak with Cherry Tomatoes, Pine Nuts and Feta

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Planning your patio season celebrations? This is a great meal for outside entertaining. Serves six.

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 1/2 lb flank steak
- Salt and pepper
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 1/2 cup sliced cherry or grape tomatoes (yellow and red), sliced in half
- 3 Tbsp toasted pine nuts
- 1 1/2 oz crumbled feta cheese
- 3 Tbsp chopped basil

Directions

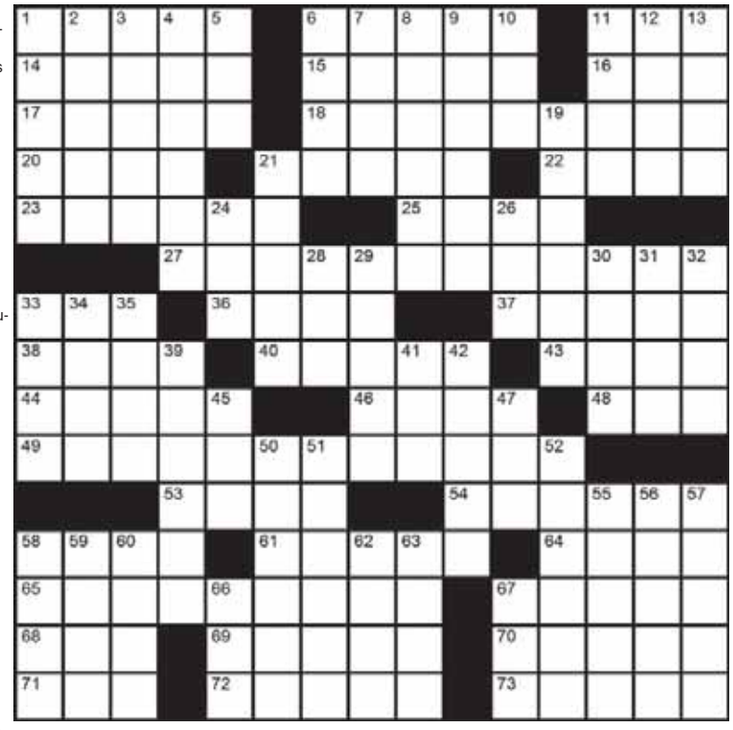
1. Season steak with salt and pepper. Grill for about five minutes per side, depending upon thickness, until cooked to your preference. For medium rare, let temperature reach 130 F. Let sit for 10 minutes. Alternatively, bake at 425F for the same amount of time.
2. Meanwhile, in large skillet, add olive oil and sauté tomatoes for two minutes.
3. Slice steak thinly across the grain and spread tomatoes, nuts, feta and basil over top.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 280
- Carbohydrates 1 g
- Fibre 1 g
- Protein 34 g
- Fat 15 g
- Saturated fat 6 g
- Cholesterol 55 mg
- Sodium 150 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Old _ (Men's grooming brand)
6. "I'm not sure if that's good _ _ news?"
11. Premium auto
14. Nutty pie
15. Ms. Witherspoon
16. "Well, _-di-dah!"
17. Scottish landowner
18. Bryan Adams' 'I know not what I do' song, with Please: 2 wds.
20. Banda _ (City in Sumatra in Indonesia)
21. 'Mechanical Resonance' band
22. Off
23. Queen's chair
25. Tehran's locale
27. Corner Brook _ _ _ Limited (Company in Newfoundland that manages about 3.6 'mill'ion acres of forest)
33. _ Na Na
36. Change direction
37. Fearless
38. School year division
40. Paving stones
43. Mr. Kristofferson
44. Yukon-Alaska peak, Mount Saint _
46. 'Special' suffixes
48. Model Carol
49. McCain crust-and-filling snacks: 2 wds.
53. Aahs cohorts
54. Heaps
58. Dirt
61. Signs
64. Warmth
65. Fundy _ _ Adventures (Shubenacadie River tour provider in Nova Scotia)
67. Rigatoni
68. _-encompassing
69. Brings to life a ballad
70. Record
71. "See ya."
72. Carpentry grooves
73. Cup, in Montreal

DOWN
1. Fallen tomato's sound
2. Summery fruit
3. More frigid
4. Arnold's server on "Happy Days"
5. Conclusion
6. Ornamental pond fish, Golden _
7. Vintage autos
8. City in Leonard Cohen's "First We Take Manhattan"
9. Mount in Nunavut sharing the name of The Aesir's home in Norse mythology
10. Agnus _ (Mass prayer)
11. Bungled
12. Family member
13. _ protein powder
19. Joan of "Knots Landing": 2 wds.
21. Vancouver-headquartered communications company
24. Cashew
26. Police alert, commonly
28. Before
29. Caper
30. Prefix to 'normal'
31. Super nasty
32. Break
33. Footprint
34. Prefix to 'copter'
35. Tucson's li'l state
39. Corn oil brand
41. "Tut-tut!"
42. Thorny rose parts
45. Brazil: _ Louis
47. Pou _ (Vantage point)
50. Fear of something
51. Donny or Marie
52. "CBC News Now" host Ms. Meharchand
55. Tree abodes
56. Fig's friends
57. Gawk
58. Wild guess
59. Slick
60. Laze
62. Thus
63. Loch _ Monster
66. John Lennon's unintended acronym
67. Arfer, for one

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